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# SURVIVAL.

*The Magazine of Self Reliance*

GUIDE

**SIG  
P228  
P220**



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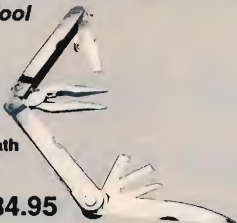
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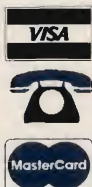
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# AMERICAN SURVIVAL

## The Magazine of Self Reliance

### GUIDE

DECEMBER 1989 VOLUME 11 NUMBER 12

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SIG Sauer's P220 .45 ACP and new P228 9mm Combat Pistols are designed specifically to meet the requirements of military and law enforcement agencies. See page 24 (Photo by Scott Stoddard). Inset: Preventing cold injuries. See page 28.

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**'Assault weapon plague':  
The big lie of the  
anti-gun-ownership  
movement...**

# TO THE POINT

**W**HEN Joseph Wesbecker, the mentally ill former printing plant employee in Louisville, Kentucky, returned to the plant and went on a shooting rampage with his AK-47 rifle and other guns, the response from the media and anti-firearm-ownership politicians was predictable.

Here in southern California the vehemently anti-gun *Los Angeles Times* ran the expected color photo above the fold on the front page the next day showing the Louisville police chief holding up the dreaded AK-47 used by the killer to murder seven people and wound 15 others at the plant before he shot and killed himself.

And of course the *Times* didn't lose the opportunity to promote harsh gun control once more, whipping out an article with the headline: "Louisville Mayhem Seen Spurring Gun Debate, Activists on Both Sides Expect New Drive to Widen Curbs on Assault Weapons." In the text of the article the writer declared: "Even the most far-reaching legislation now under consideration at the federal level would stop short of outlawing assault weapons altogether."

The usual group of anti-gunners were of course interviewed and declared they would renew their drive to ban these weapons. Even the president of the American Bar Association, L. Stanley Chauvin, was brought into the act with the quote: "Assault weapons are used for no earthly purpose other than to kill people. As long as they are available people will be killed."

We've all had to put up with so much of this mindless crap from the media and many of our politicians for so much of this year that we've become accustomed to it.

Try as we have to convince these closed-minded people, and members of the public that they have succeeded in brainwashing with their ban-the-guns mind-set, that passing more laws to harshly restrict and outright ban and confiscate firearms, especially the unreasonably feared "assault weapons," is not the answer, the anti-gun onslaught continues.

Despite the slaughter of hundreds or thousands of students by the Red

Chinese government this year, despite the looting and violence in the aftermath of Hurricane Hugo recently, despite the absence of any conclusive statistics showing that "assault weapons" or other guns are being used extensively in crime, the anti-gun-ownership movement, with the aid of the national media (news and entertainment), continues to beat the drums and rant and rave about the supposed need to outlaw guns, particularly, semiautomatic military-type rifles and shotguns.

The FBI Uniform Crime Report for 1988 now shows clearly that all the hysterical gibberish about the "assault weapon plague" in this country promoted so often this year by the media, anti-gun-ownership politicians and the political left is a great big lie!

Comparing the FBI national crime reports for 1980 and 1988, the last year for which statistics are available, the National Rifle Association noted in its magazine, *American Rifleman* (October 1989 issue): "While the number of firearms owned was increasing faster than the population and handgun buying by women was increasing dramatically, gun-related crime in the U.S. decreased during the 1980s."

"Comparing the 1980 and 1988 reports shows that most increases in crime during the 1980s were violent crimes in which weapons other than firearms or no weapons were used. During the 1980s the overall violent crime rate rose 7%, while gun-related violence fell 10%," the NRA noted. "The domestic homicide rate (family members killing family members, the closest approximation to the so-called 'crimes of passion') fell 19% in 1988, to reach the lowest level in more than a quarter of a century. Decreases of 20% in gun-related homicide and 25% in gun-related robbery also mark the 1980s.

"Leading the decline in gun-related crime was a 30% drop in homicides involving rifles. The gun prohibitionists' charge that police officers are frequently 'outgunned' by criminals wielding 'assault rifles' is refuted by FBI data," the NRA stated. "The report indicates that nearly 10 times as many officers were slain with their own handguns as by killers using

military-caliber rifles."

Of course the anti-gun movement leaders will hotly dispute these figures. They'll rail on about the need to ban and even confiscate "assault rifles" and, while we're at it, all other guns as well.

To the average citizen, many of them non-gun owners, the media blitzkrieg of anti-gun-ownership propaganda this year may seem like compelling logic for banning firearms. These people are largely ignorant of how the media operates, how it sensationalizes violence and propagandizes for the pet causes of those people who largely control it.

As firearms owners, we must take a stand for responsible, law-abiding gun ownership in this country. If our friends and neighbors have been influenced—or actually brainwashed—by the massive campaign of anti-gun-ownership hysteria and propaganda this past year, we must do our best to inform and educate them with the facts.

We shouldn't be apologetic or defensive about wanting to keep our basic rights and freedoms—rights and freedoms on which this country was founded. It's time to stand up and be counted—most particularly at the voting booth. We have to show the anti-gun-ownership fanatics how many of us there are and how we feel about our rights, our liberty. And don't hesitate to let your elected representatives, the media and other people know you believe in the Second Amendment and the public's right to law-abiding firearms ownership.

That battle over firearms in public hands is far from over. The pro-gun forces have definitely lost ground this year and we are in danger of losing our rights to keep and bear arms, and after that, other essential and fundamental rights.

So as this year comes to a close, let us all be resolved to continue the fight for our firearms rights and freedoms for as long as it takes—forever if necessary. We're up against tremendously powerful forces in the media and government and we must never again be complacent about our guns. This past year has shown the great folly of doing that — *Jim Benson.* ●

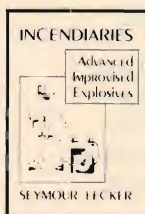
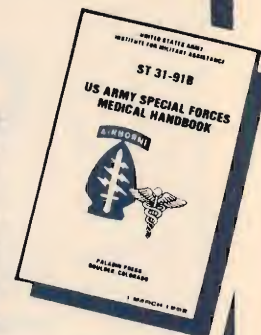


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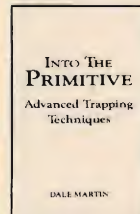
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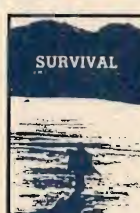
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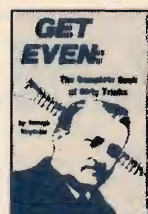
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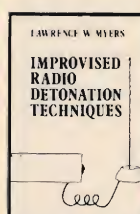
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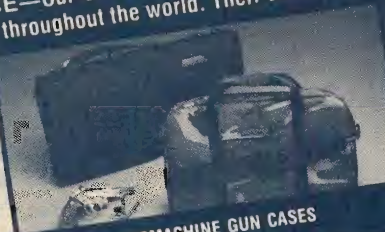
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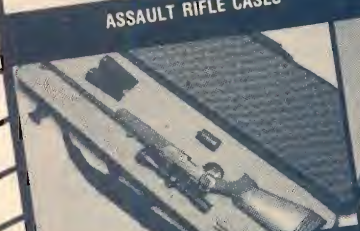
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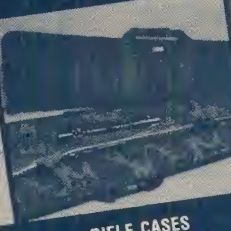
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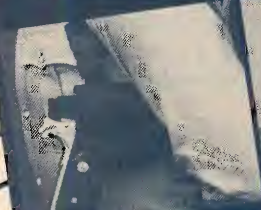
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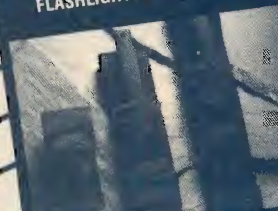
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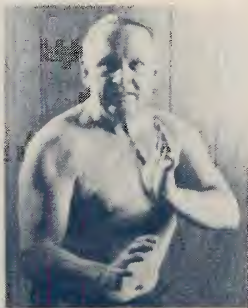
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Mercure. Anchor Publishing, P.O. Box  
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**Battleaxe, A Warrior's Tale**, by John  
McSweeney; City Video Productions,  
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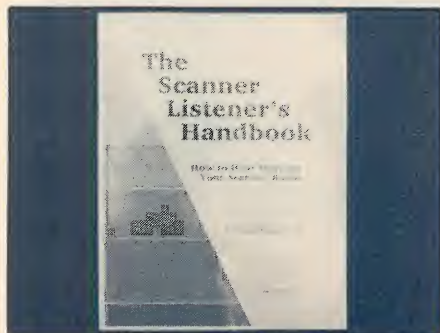


Steven M. Hampton



**Advanced Lock Picking**, by Steven M. Hampton; Paladin Press, P.O. Box 1307, Dept. ASG, Boulder, CO 80306; (303) 443-7250; 56 pages, softcover; \$10 plus \$3.50 shipping.

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**The Scanner Listener's Handbook**, How to Hear More on Your Scanner Radio, by Edward Soomre, N1BFF; Tiare Publications, Dept. ASG, P.O. Box 493, Lake Geneva, WI 53147; (414) 248-4845; 130 pages, softcover; \$14.95 plus \$2 shipping.

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(Continued on page 43)

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and three exterior pockets, epaulettes and drawcords in the waist and bottom seams. Originally issued to the IDF in olive green, the parka is now also available in navy blue and black. Order either S-M-L-XL for \$68.95 plus \$4.50 shipping and handling from NITRO-PAK Survival Foods and Supplies, 11018 E. Rosecrans Ave. Suite #300, Norwalk, CA 90650; (213) 929-4705.







### V. Bernardelli Pistols

Magnum Research is proud to be the exclusive importer of V. Bernardelli firearms. Bernardelli has been involved in gun manufacturing for more than 400 years. Target shooters can choose from four models: Model U.S.A. (.22 and .380 calibers), Model P010 (.22 L.R.), Model 69 (.22 L.R.) and the

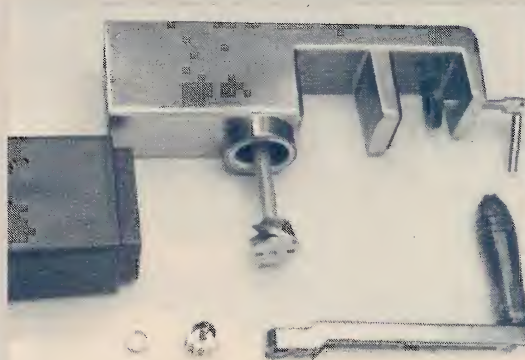
Model AMR (.22 and .380 caliber). Bernardelli also has redesigned their P018 9mm pistol. The P018 is double action and features a hammer that can be carried in the cocked position with the safety on. In standard and compact versions the P018 is available with walnut or combat style grips. Additional

features include a 16-shot magazine capacity, adjustable 3-dot sight system, squared off trigger guard, loaded chamber indicator and trigger disconnecting safety. For more information contact: Magnum Research, P.O. Box 32221, Minneapolis, MN 55432 or call (800) 772-6168.



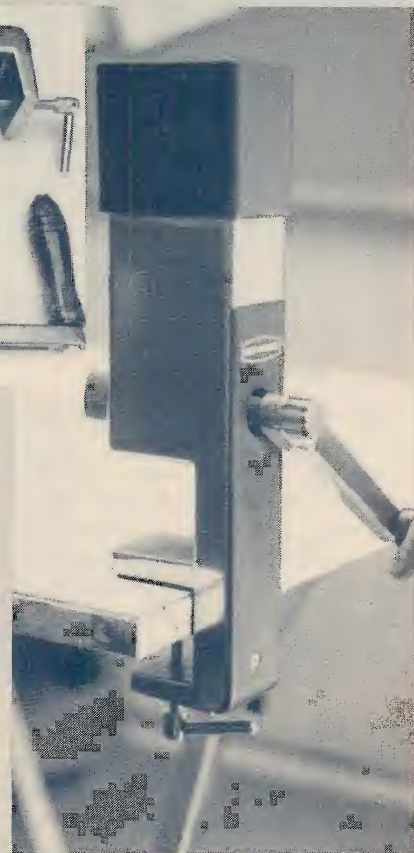
### Life Card

The Brunton LIFECARD system is a new concept in outdoor survival. In a self-contained package, no larger than a credit card, is essential survival information you'll need when you venture into the great outdoors. Not only does LIFECARD provide you with life saving information, the system provides real tools to help you in emergency situations. To start signal fires there is a flat 2.5 power magnifying lens that will also aid in map reading, etc. To find your way, simply float the Brunton disk compass in a dish of water, a puddle, or even a bit of water cupped in your hand. The three waterproof cards provide vital instructions concerning first aid, air to ground signaling, building shelters, water purification and more. For more information write: Brunton U.S.A., 620 East Monroe Avenue, Riverton, WY 82501 or call (307) 856-6559.



### Hand Grain Grinder

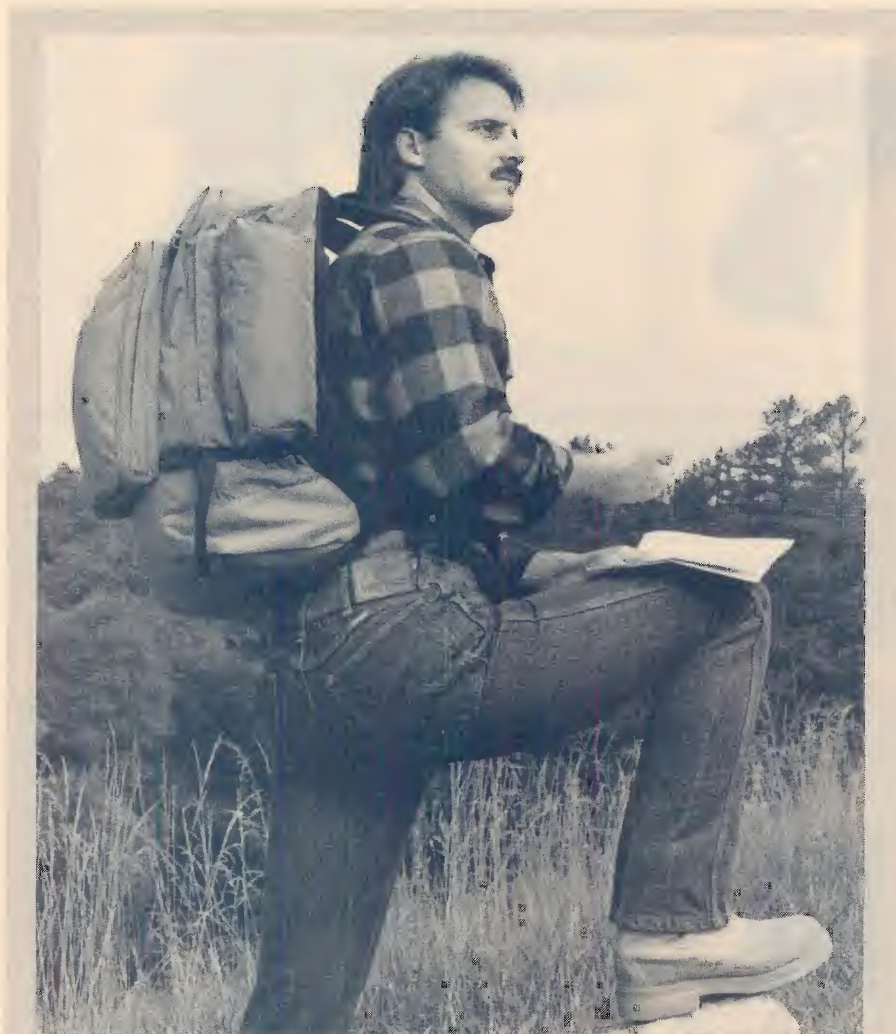
This compact grain grinder easily grinds and mills wheat, corn, rice, oats, barley, soybeans, seeds, nuts, shells, peppercorns, peanuts, etc. It will not gum up like stone grinders can. The secret is in its milling mechanism. The cone shaped grinding burrs are self aligning and made of hardened steel alloy. They are precision machined to insure long life and smooth even milling. The grinder is adjustable for any desired flour texture from fine to coarse. It mounts on any table or counter top with a clamping screw and has a rubber pad to prevent scratching the counter top surface. You can hand grind about one cup of flour per minute. With a two year guarantee this would make an excellent Christmas gift. Send



\$58.95 plus \$4.25 shipping to: NITRO-PAK Survival Foods & Supplies, 11018 E. Rosecrans Ave., Suite #300, Norwalk, CA 90650; (213) 929-4705. ●



# NEW PRODUCTS



## Wrangler Jeans

Greater comfort and durability are the hallmark of Wrangler's new line of American Hero jeans. Following extensive research with men who buy as many as 12 pairs of blue jeans a year, Wrangler has redesigned their jeans for the American Outdoorsman. The new design includes a roomier "U-shaped" (as opposed to the typical "V-

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## One Arm Bandit

Opening your favorite folding knife is a snap with ONE ARM BANDIT from Y.B. Technology. Precision machined from a solid bar of stainless steel, the BANDIT offers quick positive attachment in seconds. The knurled no-slip actuator assures lightening fast operation. The BANDIT greatly enhances the usefulness of your folding

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## Exit Traveler

Now you can carry a reliable means of escape from high-rise fire wherever you travel. The portable, compact, lightweight Exit Traveler is an easy-to-use lowering system engineered to carry you slowly, safely to the ground. It operates automatically and has a reach of twelve stories. Engineered from the highest quality materials, the Exit Traveler has a specially designed flat steel band cable housed in a reinforced cassette case. The cable has a tested tensile strength of 2,205 lbs. The band cable, tiedown cable and hook can withstand temperatures up to 1,830 degrees Fahrenheit for over 50 minutes at full load. The unit comes complete with leather travel case, window center punch, 12-hour light stick and instructions. Contact R.A.W. Rescue Products, Inc., P.O. Box 314, Ambler, PA 19002. Phone: (215) 643-1007





## Barking Dog Alarm

Nothing stops a burglar quicker than a vicious barking dog. This new electronic alarm does just that without the extra trouble of feeding, walking, fleas or vet bills. Simply plug the "new dog" into any standard outlet and it barks for 55 seconds. Then it shuts itself off until it hears another sound. Any sound causes the alarm to respond with a fierce bark. The bark is a digital recording of an English Bull Terrier that is coded and contained in a computer microchip. No moving parts to wear out. Both loudness and the amount of noise it takes to activate the alarm are adjustable. The Barking Dog Alarm sell for \$59.95 postage paid and is available from Progressive Energy Corp., 255 S. Bent Ave, B-2, San Marcos, CA 92069. Call (800) 525-8624 or in California (800) 233-9559.



## Citizen Defense Shield

Prudent Technologies of Rowayton, Connecticut has introduced the Citizen Defense Shield, a personal protection liner that turns a briefcase, handbag or piece of luggage into a defensive shield similar to a police vest. The shield is 11x14 inches and is made of DuPont Kevlar, a material that meets and exceeds the U.S. Department of Justice Standards for bullet-resistant materials. The Citizen Defense Shield

is available in two lightweight versions weighing 11 and 22 ounces each. Both are covered in waterproof, rip-stop ballistic nylon. The 22 ounce version retails for \$149.95 and the 11 ounce for \$99.95. Call (800) 453-3300 for the dealer nearest you.

## Edgemaker Knife Sharpener

If you have a collection of various knives but find it difficult to keep



most of them sharp, the Edgemaker knife sharpener is the answer. The Edgemaker has a dual steel placement that allows the user the option of using the honing steels to really get a good edge on the blade after using the sharpening steels. The sharpener works well with utility blades, machetes, serrated bread knives and electric knives. Take the Edgemaker into the field on camping, fishing or hunting trips. Skinning and filleting require scalpel sharp blades for precision cuts. With the Edgemaker in your pack you can touch up your blades in no time. Each Edgemaker is \$11 postpaid in the continental U.S. or \$12.50 postpaid in Alaska, Canada or Hawaii. A special price for ASG readers is being offered: two for \$20 in lower 48 only. Sierra Supply, P.O. Box 1390, Durango, CO 81302 or call (303) 259-1822.



The Dutchman:

# Night-Site System



Staff Evaluation

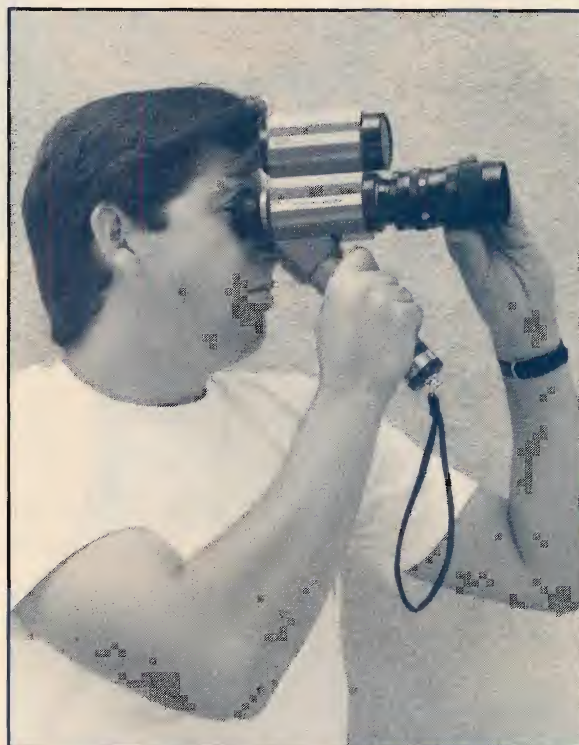
**N**IGHT vision systems are usually military surplus and it can sometimes be difficult to have them serviced or find spare parts for them.

The Find-R-Scope Infrared Nite-Site is a new, made in the U.S.A. commercially available night vision system that comes with a one year warranty on the tube and a 90-day warranty on other parts. It's compact, lightweight and efficient and is available with standard 25 mm F 1.3 TV lens or optional 12.5 to 75 mm F 1.8 zoom lens (future units will be sold only with the zoom lens). This hand held unit is a monocular infrared viewer with a focus range of six inches to infinity.

Each unit comes with one infrared viewing tube, powerful built-in light source, fine tuning focus eyepiece. For optional brighter infrared viewing there is a 110,000 candlepower rescue light and two IR lens (4½-inch concave and 5⅜-inch flat) for mounting on headlights of cars or trucks, boat spotlights, flashlights, etc.

We tried out the Nite-Site Find-R-Scope over several nights and it was an excellent night vision device. Using infrared light, there is no tube flare and no damage to the tube in daylight. In darkness, we were able to see quite well from close up to about 20 or 30 yards out with the standard TV lens and farther with the zoom lens. The zoom lens requires a brighter infrared light source than that provided on the unit to see far away objects well at night, but it does work very well. The zoom lens has a range of up to 150 yards, so if you want distant infrared illumination make sure you get the

Optional Flashlight and IR lenses for better infrared illumination.



Here the Find-R-Scope is being used with the 12.5 to 75 mm zoom lens on it with a viewing range of up to 150 yards.



To operate the scope the viewing tube and infrared light source (top) switches must be turned on.



The Find-R-Scope infrared viewing system with standard 25 mm TV lens and optional 12.5 to 75 mm zoom lens (right) on top of the padded carrying case that comes with the unit. Future units will be sold only with the zoom lens.

optional IR filters and have a good light source.

The Find-R-Scope is good quality, it's easy to operate and ideal for surveillance, police work, home security, various survival situations where vision in darkness is useful as well as wargames and many other uses.

The Find-R-Scope is available with standard lens for \$1,875, or \$1995 with zoom lens, plus \$20 shipping, from The Dutchman, Dept. ASG, P.O. Box 12548, Overland Park, KS, 66212; credit card or C.O.D. orders call toll free (800) 821-5157 (in Missouri call 816-221-3581). ●





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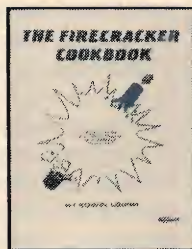
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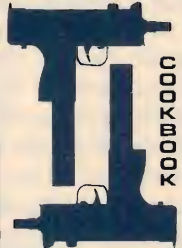


#### RANGER TRAINING

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#### MAC-10 COOKBOOK

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Disarming America:

# What's Wrong With the Second Amendment?

*It's OK to burn the flag, but you better turn in your guns. . .*

By Scott Stoddard

*There was a time when the American people roared like lions for liberty; now they bleat like sheep for security." — Norman Vincent Peale*

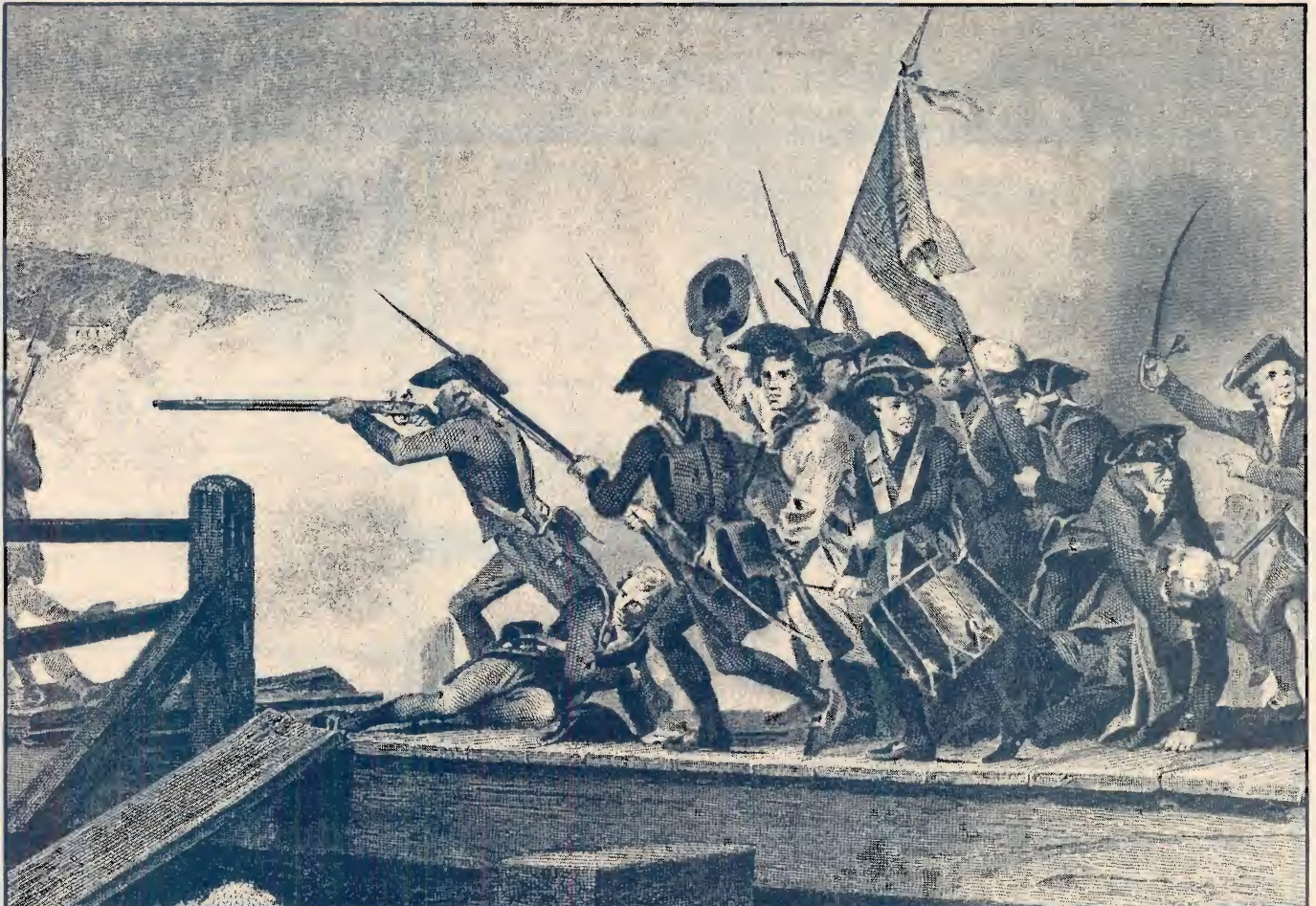
**I**t's not surprising that those who would trample the Constitution, either ignorantly or in a blatant disregard for the Supreme Law of the land, would also hold contempt for the Bill of Rights — especially the Second Amendment guaranteeing the right of the people to keep and bear arms.

There are numerous elected officials

today who are adamantly working to dismantle the Second Amendment. They will never admit that their goal is an outright ban on firearm ownership. No, their plan is to chip away, bit by bit, and destroy our rights by subtle erosion.

In the book, *The Mainspring of Human Progress*, Henry Grady Weaver states, "Most of the major ills of the world have been caused by well meaning people who ignored the principle of individual freedom except as applied to themselves, and who were obsessed with fanatical zeal to improve the lot of mankind-in-mass through some pet formula of their own. . . The harm done by ordinary criminals, murderers, gangsters, and thieves is negligible in comparison with the agony inflicted upon human beings by the professional 'do-gooders,' who attempt to set themselves up as gods on earth and who would ruthlessly force their views on all others — with the abiding assurance that the end justifies the means."

Our government today is bureaucracy out of control. All three branches of government are guilty of violating the Constitution. The president "legis-



The first attack by Americans against a body of organized British troops is launched at old North Bridge near Concord. The minutemen, seeing smoke, suspected the British of burning homes and acted to stop them. Only a few on each side were killed in this fight, but these were the shots "... heard round the world."





Embattled farmer-militia dig in near Bunker Hill  
the night before the British attack  
of June 17, 1775.

lates" by executive order, creating more laws than are passed by Congress. Congress, the federal branch responsible for government spending, has literally mortgaged our future away with a devastating deficit of over a trillion dollars. Legislators for years have gutted the American dollar with policies dating back to the creation of the Federal Reserve Bank.

The Supreme Court was originally designed to interpret laws, not make them. Today, however, we have a Court that openly creates new laws through judicial rulings. It takes more effort to overturn a Supreme Court decision than it does to override a veto by the President. It's hard to believe that five people (a majority of the Court) hold more power in this country than all state legislatures, the 535 elected federal representatives, and the President of the United States combined. Their recent ruling on the "right" to burn the American flag overturned the laws in forty-eight states, as well as a federal law, prohibiting the desecration of the flag.

**Tyrannical Government** — It's not surprising then, that our new President, who has sworn to uphold the Constitution, has gone ahead and with the help of his "drug czar," William Bennett has outright banned the importation of over forty types of semiautomatic firearms.

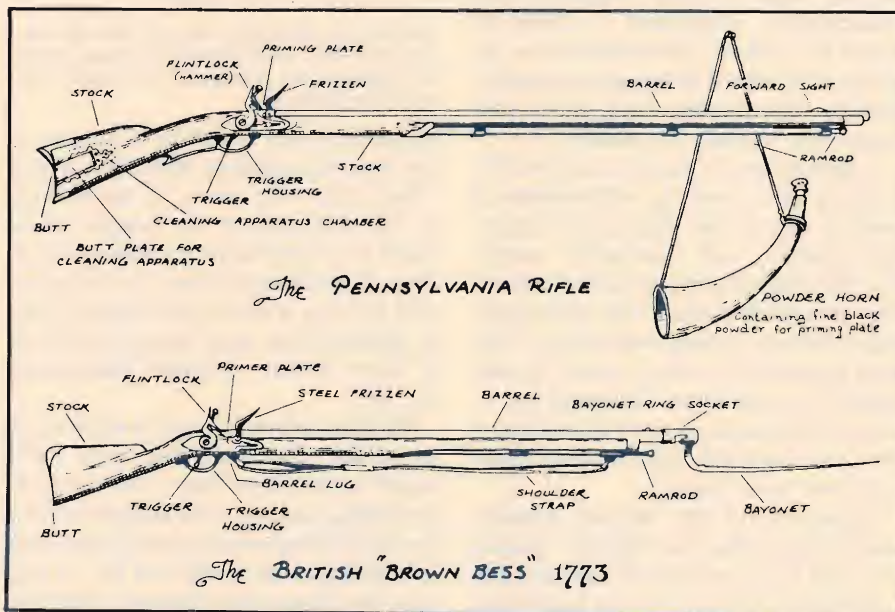
It's not surprising that a federal government agency like BATF (Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms), one that holds the power to make laws,

enforce laws, and adjudicate penalties when laws are violated — it's not surprising to see them ignore the Second Amendment and come up with the "legitimate sporting use" doctrine. This doctrine of "sporting use" specifically excludes plinking, casual target shooting, collecting, and even protection against predators and varmints.

Federal regulatory agencies like BATF continually encroach on our constitutional rights. Many of us fail to realize that most of these agencies are unconstitutional because they concentrate the functions of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches under one head. Without separation of powers, government becomes tyranni-

cal. The people have no power to recall administrative personnel and recourse in the courts is a bankrupting proposition.

In the aftermath of another multiple shooting (Sept. 14) by a mentally sick individual (this time in Louisville, Kentucky), an angry chorus of politicians voiced their holy outrage over the status of current law. Representative Pete Stark, a democrat from California said, "There will be more and more mindless mass murders until the President and the Congress put controls on the sales of assault weapons." Gun control advocates will forever call for more and more gun legislation until confiscation will be the only thing left for them to



Revolutionary War "Assault" Weapons.



# What's Wrong With the Second Amendment?

demand.

Government regulators, angry politicians, and the haughty gun control lobby are passed hearing. No amount of reason will sway them to common sense. No amount of logic, no hard facts, *nothing* will change their minds about the right of the people to keep and bear arms. Their minds are clouded with morbid media scenes of mayhem, blood and destruction and never does their vision rise from the gutter — their eyes transfixed on the murder weapon while at the same time comforting the murderer for what the gun and society made him do.

**The Bill of Rights** — What's wrong with the Second Amendment? *Nothing!* The American Bill of Rights is a legacy from tens of thousands of Englishmen who suffered imprisonment, torture, hanging, beheading, exile, and being burned alive in an effort to preserve the basic rights of free people. These rights were set forth in the Magna Charta of 1215, the Petition of Rights of 1628, the Writ of Habeas Corpus in 1689, and the English Bill of Rights of 1689.

These basic rights were considered to be so important, that many of the states wouldn't ratify the new Constitution without a Bill of Rights. The Founding Fathers wrote a preamble to the Bill of Rights which is not usually published in the printed copies of the Constitution any more: "The conventions of a number of the States, having at the time of their adopting the Constitution, expressed a desire in order to prevent misconstruction or abuse of its (the federal government's) powers, that further declaratory and restrictive clauses be added. . ."

It is significant that the unalienable right to bear arms for self defense is second only to the rights of religion, free speech, and peaceable assembly. The federal government was in no way to interfere with this individual right. Samuel Adams remarked, "The said Constitution shall never be construed to authorize Congress to . . . prevent the people of the United States who are peaceable citizens from keeping their own arms."

Opponents of the Second Amendment declare that the "Militia" spoken of is the National Guard and that the right to bear arms is not an individual right, but a collective one. This rea-

soning only proves the ignorance of the anti-gunners as to the Founding Fathers' definition of the militia. Militia, in colonial terms, had nothing to do with men in uniform. It meant every male in the community capable of carrying arms. Congress has organized the National Guard under its power to raise and support armies and not under its power to provide for organizing, arming and disciplining the Militia. The modern National Guard was specifically intended to avoid status as the constitutional militia, a distinction recognized by U.S.C. 311(a).

*The Federalist Papers*, a collection of essays written by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison and John Jay, clearly reveal the attitude of the Founders concerning guns and the militia. Responding to the fear that a



Because his Virginia Plan was the basis for the final document, James Madison has been called the "Father of the Constitution." He helped write the Bill of Rights also.

standing army would be a danger to the American people, Hamilton wrote, "that army can never be formidable to the liberties of the people while there is a large body of citizens, little, if at all, inferior to them in discipline and the use of arms, who stand ready to defend their own rights and those of their fellow citizens." (Federalist No. 29)

Madison echoed the same sentiment by saying, "Let a regular army, fully equal to the resources of the country, be formed; and let it be entirely at the devotion of the federal government; still it would not be going too far to say, that the State governments, with the people on their side, would be able to

repel the danger. The highest number to which, according to the best computation, a standing army can be carried in any country, does not exceed one hundredth part of the whole number of souls. . . . To these would be opposed a militia amounting to near half a million of citizens with arms in their hands, officered by men chosen from among themselves, fighting for their common liberties. . ." (Federalist No. 46)

The argument that the Second Amendment refers only to a collective right to bear arms is equally ridiculous. The framers of the Bill of Rights consistently used the words "right of the people" to reflect individual rights — as when these words were used to recognize the "right of the people" to peaceably assemble, and the "right of the people" against unreasonable searches and seizures. They distinguished between the rights of the people and of the state in the Tenth Amendment.

Have we become too civilized for guns? Is the Constitution out of date? Was it only designed to work with an agrarian based economy? Should we wholeheartedly trust our present-day government and the officials we send to Washington? Will the drug wars and gang shootings stop if we turn in our guns? Should we delegate our sacred right of self defense entirely to the police? There's much truth in the Italian saying, "Make yourselves sheep, and the wolves will eat you."

The framers of the Constitution lived in a time when, as one alarmed American wrote, "Elegance, luxury and effeminacy begin to be established." David Ramsay declared that if Americans had not revolted "our frugality, industry, and simplicity of manners, would have been lost in an imitation of British extravagance, idleness and false refinements."

The American people need to wake up and recognize that our government is steadily moving toward the left, toward Ruler's Law or 100 percent tyranny. It's time to get educated about the Constitution. We need to elect and support those who understand the vision and wisdom of our Founding Fathers. It's time to return to People's Law and reject the failure formulas of Socialism and Communism.

Thomas Jefferson, the author of the Declaration of Independence, wrote,



"Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly, all experience has shown, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But, when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government and to provide new guards for their future security. (*Annals of America*, 2:447-48)

Taking away the guns from honest, law abiding citizens is the litmus test. When government takes away our ability to defend our lives, our families, and our property, and takes away what the Founders agreed was the ultimate check against tyranny — an armed citizenry — then we have become the slaves and serfs of government.

John Locke (1632-1704), was a man of reason and recognized that there was no divine right of kings to rule over the people. In his *Second Essay Concerning Civil Government* he states, "The reason why men enter into society is the preservation of their prop-



Americans surge uphill to recapture Stony Point. To insure stealth and surprise, Anthony Wayne ordered most of his 1,350 troops to charge with their guns unloaded. The British gave way at the point of brandished American bayonets.

erty. . . [Therefore,] whenever the legislators endeavour to take away and destroy the property of the people, or to reduce them to slavery under arbitrary power, they [the officials of government] put themselves into a state of war with the people, who are thereupon absolved from any further obed-

ience, and are left to the common refuge which God hath provided for all men against force and violence. Whensoever, therefore, the legislative shall transgress this fundamental rule of society, and either by ambition, fear, folly, or corruption, endeavour to grasp themselves, or put into the hands of any other, an absolute power over the lives, liberties and estates of the people, by this breach of trust THEY [the government officials] FORFEIT THE POWER THE PEOPLE HAD PUT INTO THEIR HANDS. . . and it devolves to the people, who have a right to resume their original liberty, and . . . provide for their own safety and security." ●

Don't remain idle and ignorant concerning the attacks on the Second Amendment and the Constitution. For more information contact:

**The Second Amendment Foundation**, James Madison Building, 12500 N.E. 10th Place, Bellevue, WA 98005; (206) 454-7012

**The National Center for Constitutional Studies**, P.O. Box 30776, Salt Lake City, Utah 84130; (800) 365-1776 or (801) 973-1776.

**The Institute for Constitutional Education**, P.O. Box 1005, Cedar City, Utah 84720; (801) 586-5253.

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**By Staff Report**

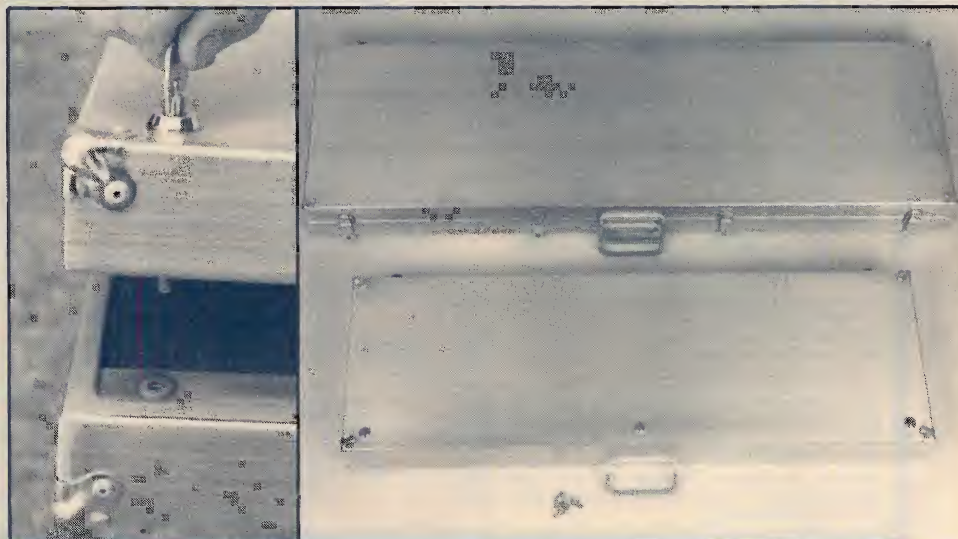
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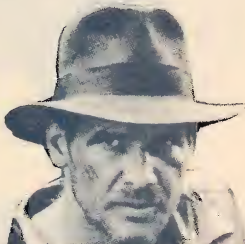


The Napoleon Bonaparte Eagle Sword Cane in stunning silver is one of the most beautiful sword canes we have ever seen. A true collector's piece from handle to sword tip, the detail of the silver Eagle's head perfectly complements the lustrous hardwood shaft (sheathed) and the tri-foil sword (un-sheathed). The sword is made of high-carbon steel; the shaft of finely turned beechwood. Overall length 36"; sword length from handle to tip, 32". Internal pin-in-channel mechanism locks/unlocks the sword. Made in France by that country's premier cane maker, and an absolute steal at \$160.00 plus \$3.50 shipping.

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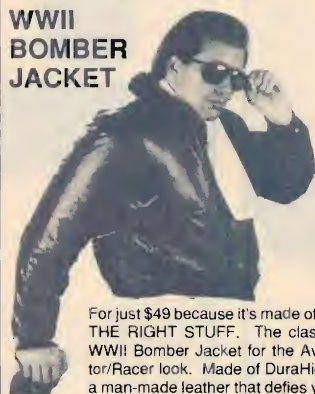
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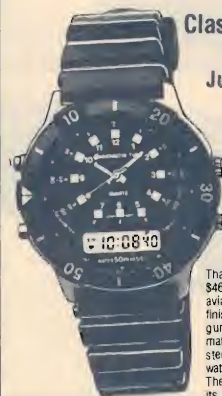
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# P220, P228 Combat Pistols

*Swiss designed, German made .45, 9 millimeter handguns for military, law enforcement, personal defense purposes. . .*



The P220 has a smooth, squared front trigger guard. The P228 has a rounded, serrated front trigger guard.



The P220 holds 8 rounds of .45 ACP, the P228 holds 14 9mm NATO rounds.

**By Jim Benson**

**S**IG SAUER's line of combat semiautomatic pistols are known around the world for their high quality, reliability and accuracy.

The FBI and other law enforcement agencies in the U.S. use SIG pistols and they are increasingly popular with the public as well.

Swiss designed specifically to meet the requirements of military and law enforcement agencies, the German made SIG SAUER pistols are produced by state-of-the-art processes using the best available materials.

The first of the current SIG combat handgun line was the P220 .45 ACP pistol introduced in the 1970s. The

American version of this double action semiautomatic, with thumb-level magazine release instead of the European style butt release, was introduced a few years ago. The P220 is also available in .38 Super caliber.

The latest in the SIG line is the P228 14-shot 9 millimeter NATO caliber pistol, a compact version of the SIG P226 16-shot pistol introduced in the early 1980s. The P228 is better suited for concealed carry.

SIGARMS, Inc., of Herndon, Virginia, U.S. importer and distributor of SIG SAUER firearms, provided a P220 and P228 for evaluation.

The frames are anodized aluminum alloy and the slides are steel. Grips are plastic. The overall finish is a matte black.

The dimensions and weight distribution of these firearms were designed for maximum shooting comfort and control. The high contrast white dot front and white square rear square notch semi-fixed sights are intended for rapid target acquisition even in low light conditions (optional "SIGLITE" night sights are available also). A sight pushing tool allows some adjustment for windage and elevation.

The SIGs were meant to be carried safely with a round chambered. The patented automatic firing pin safety block prevents firing until the trigger is pulled. At any time when a round is chambered the decocking lever can be thumbed down to safely lower the hammer.

The smooth double action trigger

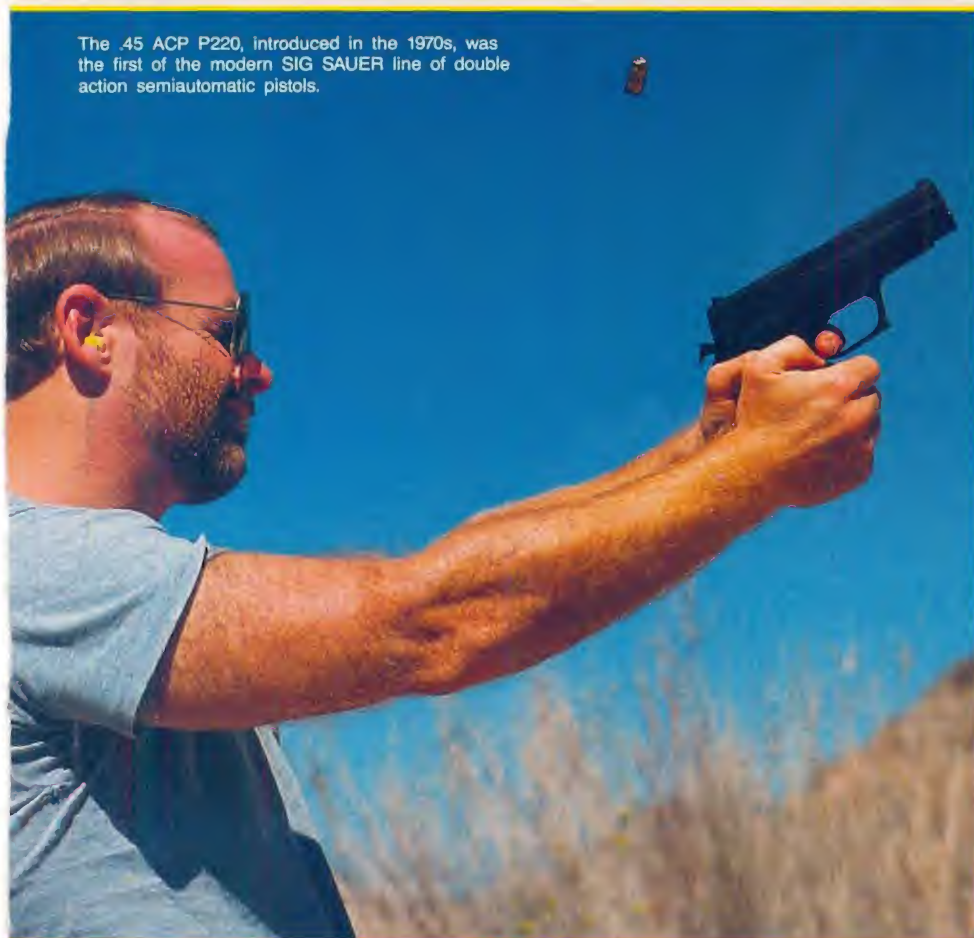
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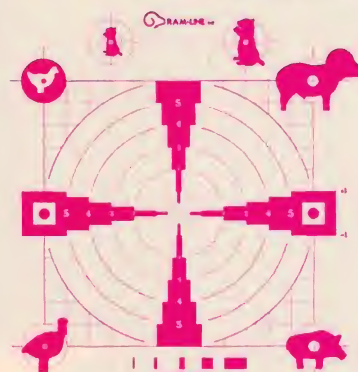
The new SIG SAUER P228 9mm NATO semiautomatic combat pistol is a compact version of the increasingly popular SIG P226 now in use with the FBI and other law enforcement agencies.



The .45 ACP P220, introduced in the 1970s, was the first of the modern SIG SAUER line of double action semiautomatic pistols.



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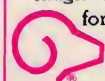


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# Shield

*Strategic Defense:  
an end to nuclear  
MADness?...*



This artist's conception shows what a high energy space based laser would look like. It can kill anything it can see, with the speed of light.



*This is the last of a series of articles on the origins and status of the strategic relationship between the United States and the Soviet Union. This article will discuss the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) and the alternatives to the present state of nuclear affairs — The editors.*

**By J. Lincoln Thorner**

**O**N 23 March 1983 President Reagan made a historic speech, one that offered the possibility of ending the nuclear terror that has been the basis of our relationship with the Soviet Union for the past 40 years.

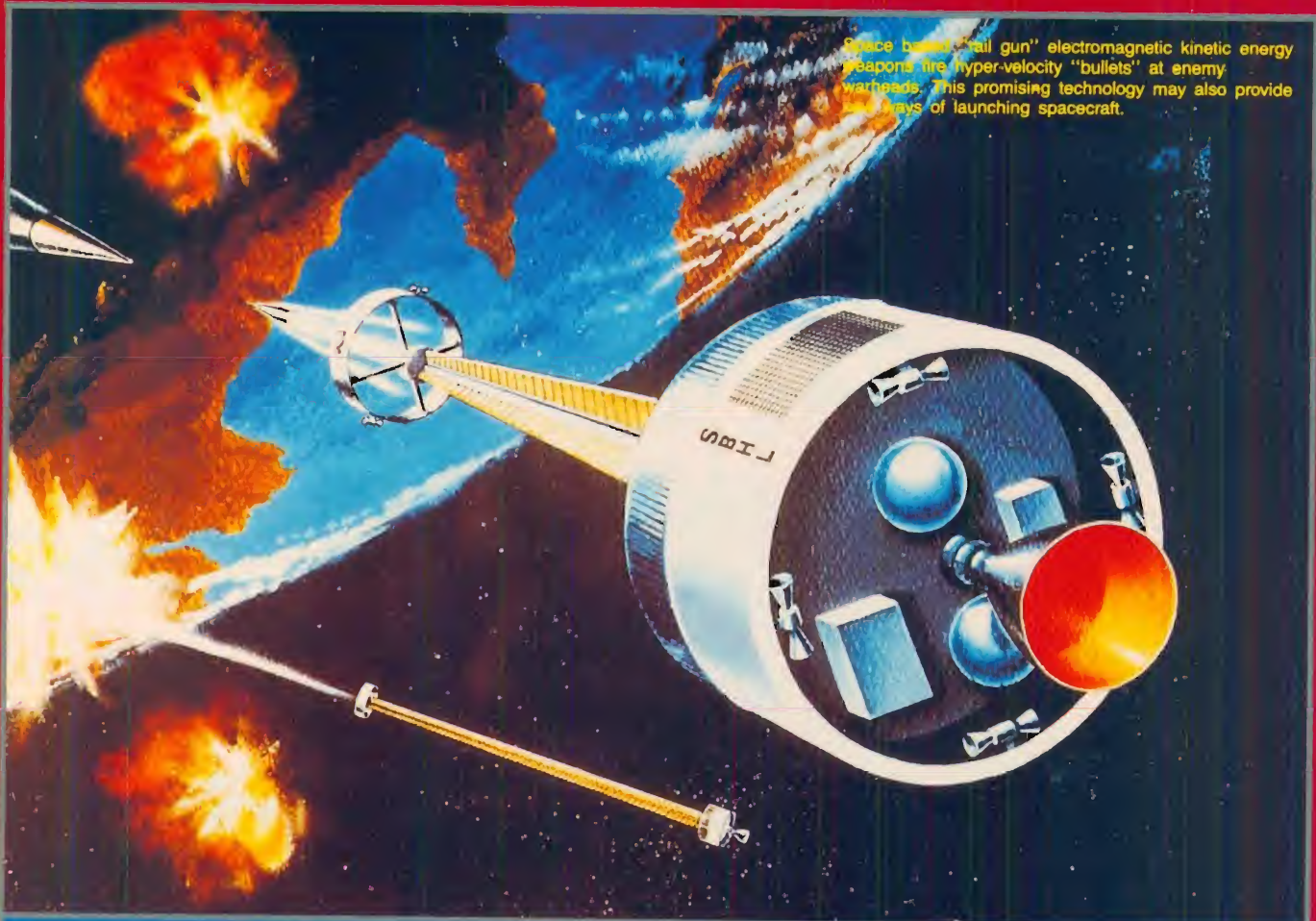
In it he called upon "...the scientific community, those who gave us

*(Continued on page 65)*



Shown here is an artist's conception of a space based anti-warhead rocket system. These rockets would need neither conventional nor nuclear explosives to score a kill on an enemy ICBM warhead. Impact alone would do the job.

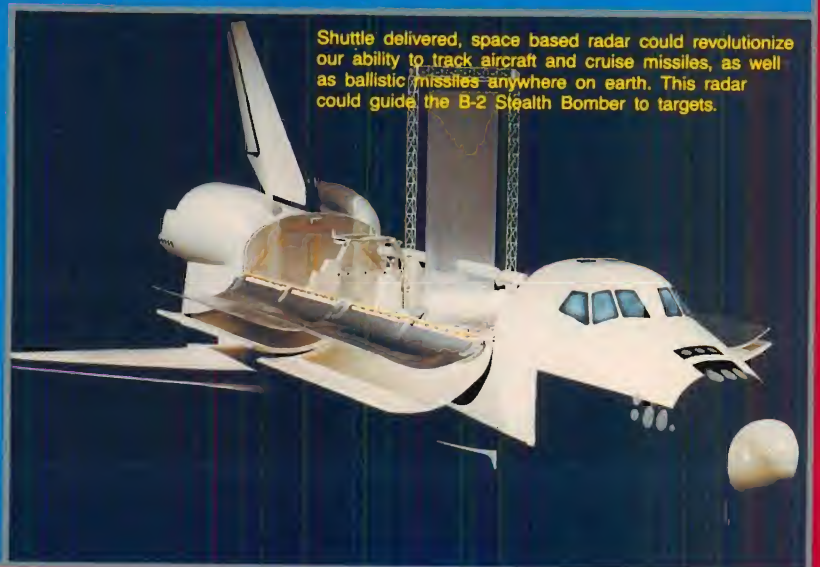




Space based "rail gun" electromagnetic kinetic energy weapons fire hyper-velocity "bullets" at enemy warheads. This promising technology may also provide new ways of launching spacecraft.



A high altitude aluminum target is destroyed by a hyper-velocity precision guided missile, using projectile speed alone.



Shuttle delivered, space based radar could revolutionize our ability to track aircraft and cruise missiles, as well as ballistic missiles anywhere on earth. This radar could guide the B-2 Stealth Bomber to targets.



Wilderness Skills:

# Preventing Cold Injuries

*Proper clothing and a knowledge of hypothermia...*



A complete cold-weather duff for hunting and survival.



Thinsulate underwear gives warmth with less weight and bulk.



A one-piece suit is better for holding and trapping body heat.



Coverall legs have full-length, two-way nylon zippers with storm flaps.





Head protection includes: nylon pile hat with turn-down ear flaps, neoprene face mask, and yellow tinted eye wear.

By George E. Dvorchak, Jr., M.D.

**T**HE outdoors in cold weather can be beautiful, enjoyable, and if not prepared for, deadly. Although most of my outdoor activities center around hunting, the skier, snowmobiler, hiker, trapper, etc., all need to be prepared to avoid serious injuries caused by low temperatures. Some of this preparation is by purchasing proper clothing and then wearing it correctly. A knowledge of the outdoors, your own physical capabilities and certain first aid information about cold injuries is also as important.

Before trying to understand the various cold disorders, it is important to have an idea of what low temperature does to tissues. We all know that prolonged and extreme cold can cause damage and eventual death to skin. This results from crystals forming in the soft tissue and fluids of skin that is exposed to a low temperature. This exposure can be from a cold wind or an actual low temperature. The amount of humidity in the air is also important. This is why it is crucial that bare skin and eyes be protected whenever possible from the elements. Our skin is the body's first line of defense and therefore, the tissue most susceptible to environmental extremes.

There is a certain sequence of events or stages that the body goes through in the effort to overcome a low temperature. First, you will simply feel

cold. Next, the body shivers in an attempt to generate heat. The hypothalamus or thermoregulatory center in the brain is attempting to maintain the body's temperature of 98.6 degrees Fahrenheit, of which a normal range can be 96.8 to 99.3. Most of us have experienced these first two stages at sometime in our lives. This is no big deal! The big deal or serious concerns are from this point onward.

In the next or third stage, the body's decreasing temperature causes an indifference or apathy in the individual. Due to this mental state, awareness of a more serious pending situation is sometimes not realized and therefore a logical plan of action to get out of the impending emergency is not pursued. Others may be fully aware of the impending dangers but because of the immediate situation, can not do anything to avoid further injury as getting into a warm shelter. This is why it is important to dress right and prepare for a problem before it happens.

In the fourth stage, due to the body becoming colder, the victim becomes sleepy which is later followed by unconsciousness. Physiologically, the respiratory rate and pulse slow. The extremities and exposed areas are the first to freeze and death is now a good possibility if the situation cannot be reversed.

Another concern of those going out into the cold should be the windchill factor. This is a term we usually hear reported on TV weather reports. A temperature of 0 degrees F on a windless day is obviously cold. Add a 20

mph wind to that 0 and the equivalent temperature is now -39 degrees F. The 0 degrees F was cold and dangerous, but the -39 is even more so.

Now that factors as temperature and wind were discussed, some common cold disorders will now be presented.

**Frostbite** — This is one of the most common disorders caused by cold and one most of us can relate to. The usual body parts commonly affected are obviously those not sufficiently covered as the nose, ears, cheeks, fingers and toes.

To better treat this disorder, it has been classified into three degrees based on the severity of tissue damage.

First degree: Freezing, but no blistering or peeling of the skin. Second degree: Freezing but with blistering, peeling or a combination of both. Third degree: Freezing with the addition of skin death. Due to the severity, more than just superficial tissues can be involved. As with a third degree burn, this is a dangerous stage ripe for later infections.

Probably one of the biggest problems with cold injuries is that the victim on occasion is unaware of the severity of the injury. This is because cold causes anesthesia to the affected part. Therefore, you must be aware of the possibility and be on the lookout for signs such as the following: 1. Skin becomes white and glossy. This is due to the superficial blood vessels becoming constricted in an attempt to save body heat. If prolonged, necrosis and later gangrene are possible. 2. If pain is present, it usually occurs early and



# Preventing Cold Injuries



A therm-a-sac can be used to carry a thermos, spare ammo, CB, etc.



Always carry extra survival gear in a small pack. A butt pack is a good size for carrying extra food, knife, extra clothing, flashlight, etc.

before the anesthetic effect. **3.** If blisters form, this is already in the second degree. **4.** The skin can become stiff and numb. The stiffness is due to a loss of elasticity.

There are things you can do to prevent further damage and reverse dangerous processes. Once you realize a body part has been damaged, protect it from further injury by immediately covering it. If windy, get to a protected area as under a hemlock tree or if possible, into a warm shelter.

Rewarm the area with warm, not hot water. This means between 98 and 104° Fahrenheit. You should not friction rub or rub with snow the affected parts since these old practices can increase the possibility of tissue damage. If you can get to a warm shelter, get any constricting and wet clothing off since you do not want blood flow to be impaired or moisture lowering the body's temperature.

If conscious, a warm drink can be given to the victim. What you do not drink is alcohol since it can only give a false sense of warmth. The victim should not smoke since tobacco constricts blood vessels and hampers the circulation — the same thing the cold has already been doing.

If possible, rest in bed with the affected parts elevated and uncovered at room temperature. If the feet are involved, do not walk since this will put excess pressure on the affected and damaged areas.

If blisters later form, do not break them since when broken, the likelihood of an infection becomes greater. The most important step is to seek medical assistance if the severity of

the injury dictates additional care. If you are not sure, play it safe and get to your physician as soon as possible.

The next disorder to be aware of is hypothermia, a lower than normal body temperature. This disorder can affect the outdoorsman not properly clothed or the elderly in their home due to a lack of sufficient heat. For some, indoor temperatures as high as 65° F can bring on hypothermia. Contributing factors are the person's clothing, age, nutritional status, health status, wind velocity, humidity, altitude, etc. If you have medical conditions such as diabetes or heart disease, the cold or hypothermia can make them worse and under certain circumstances, kill you. This condition is dangerous!

If you come across a victim of hypothermia, some of the signs to look for are: **1.** A rectal temperature could be between 77 and 95 degrees Fahrenheit. This could be the only sign or symptom. **2.** The victim could be lethargic and disoriented which becomes worse as time passes. His judgement and eyesight could be impaired. **3.** Blood pressure and heart rate can decrease with slow and shallow breathing. **4.** In later stages, the victim could become drowsy and lapse into unconsciousness. Death is a possibility due to ventricular fibrillation, which does not allow blood to be pumped effectively.

First aid treatment begins with trying to obtain medical assistance. Yet, do not try to get assistance by leaving and therefore neglecting the victim since there are procedures you can do to help and stabilize him. The ideal

situation is with two people, one assists while the other goes for help. Concerning the patient, get him immediately to a warm area. Next, remove wet clothes and wrap him in a blanket. You must be careful here since during rewarming, if done too rapidly, there is a chance of heart arrhythmias.

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation could be required so be alert to changes in the patient's status. This condition is critical and medical care a must, if available. At this point, a good Red Cross course in CPR and first aid, often given by local fire and rescue companies, could have given you the confidence and knowledge to save a life or prevent further injury.

**Clothing** — One of the best approaches to the cold is through preparation which means prevention. Here is where a knowledge of clothing and equipment is important.

Certain clothing will help you to stay warm and enjoy any cold weather activity. Starting with the head and working downward, about 30% of body heat is lost through skin radiation from this area. This is why a hat is essential. A down insulated hunting cap with turn-down flaps to protect the ears is an excellent choice. When sitting in the cold, a thermal face mask is valuable in protecting the face from windburn. It keeps your face so warm that I found I had to remove it when walking during deer hunting to keep from perspiring and forming moisture on my face.

Yellow shooting glasses for low light or dark ones for bright sun or glare from snow also help protect the eyes from twigs or wind. Cold winds constantly blowing in one's face could cause conjunctivitis. If you do not like light or dark lenses, clear replacement ones are also available.

Next down the line is protection for the body itself. Layers of good clothing are the best way to keep heat in and when warmer from walking, avoid overheating. It is important to realize that exertion causes overheating. This overheating causes perspiration to form which is the body's way of cooling down to preserve an ideal temperature. It is this perspiration that on cooling, causes the body to become cold even when proper clothing is worn.

My approach to dressing warm is the layered one. First, and nearest my



skin, I put on thermal underwear. It is important that when you buy thermal underwear, you get a set that fits. If tall, buy a tall size. There is nothing worse than underwear that shrink when washed and are now even tighter and therefore more constricting. A tight crotch makes walking difficult and limits blood flow to the skin.

For the second layer, I found underwear with a snapped front that can be fully closed when sitting or open when walking to allow heat to escape to be best. Again, get a suit that fits. Not too big, but on the other hand, nothing tight to constrict movements.

For the last or outer layer, I found that a one piece insulated coverall suit is best for keeping heat in. Zippers in the front and on the legs can be unzipped when walking to avoid overheating. The zipper or snap becomes your thermoregulator. I recently purchased Gore-Tex coveralls and because of the Gore-Tex fabric, it is 100% waterproof. This one piece outfit is the best insurance to avoidance of cold injury when outdoors on those frigid days.

For the hands, a good pair of gloves, especially mittens, which are warmer, are a necessity. In testing various types, one of many that I found excellent are the four layered Gore-Tex Thinsulate gloves/mittens.

Lastly, but very important, are boots and socks. A good heavyweight sock is 40% polypropylene (which keeps perspiration from the skin) and 35% wool (for warmth) plus 25% nylon. A pair of these socks on your feet in a Sorel Stag boot are a winning combination in keeping your feet dry and warm.

When hunting in the late fall when temperatures can be mild one time, cold and wet others, I use a polarfleece backpack. In it I carry a rain suit, camera, waterproof matches, paper towels (for nature calls or starting a fire) space blanket, rope, game saw (for game or building a shelter) orange trail marking tape, a few candy bars, water and a can of tuna.

Survival and comfort are possible in the outdoors in cold weather. By being careful of certain weather conditions, aware of weather changes and with proper clothing, there is no reason why you can not safely enjoy the winter. Above all, before you set out on a cold day, eat a good high protein breakfast. Dietary induced thermogenesis or heat production from within the body is the result of food intake. A nourished body is another factor in keeping warm. The cold can be enjoyed if you are prepared. ●

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Emergency Response:

# Radiological Transportation Accidents



Tri-blade Radiation Symbol

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*Millions of packages of radioactive materials are transported in the United States each year. . .*

---

By Larry D. Weber

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If a shipping container is damaged, the danger from radiation exposure might be greater due to the loss of shielding provided by the packaging material.

**Y**OU are the first person to come upon an overturned truck. Quickly glancing, you notice that the driver appears to be injured and there are several containers that appear to be damaged and leaking. What actions can you take to help — yet protect — yourself from possible radiation exposure?

There are millions of packages of radioactive materials that are transported in the United States each year. Most shipments consist of medical and industrial products. Other shipments include nuclear power plant fuel, nuclear weapons and weapons materials. Radioactive waste generated by nuclear reactors, military facilities, laboratories and hospitals are also transported. Despite their frequency, however, there have been no known serious nuclear radiation exposures resulting from transportation accidents. This is due largely to the nature of the radioactive materials being transported and the use of special protective packaging. This excellent safety record is



also due to the close attention given by the shippers to proper handling and packaging of radioactive materials.

There are basically four types of radioactive material packaging being used today. Listed in order of increasing potential danger, they are as follows: Limited Quantity (LQ) packaging; Type A packaging; Low Specific Activity (LSA) packaging; Type B packaging.

LQ packaging standards essentially require the use of "normal industrial packaging" that assures no loss of contents under normal transportation conditions. The use of outside warning labels or markings are not required on these packages.

Examples of radioactive materials shipped in LQ packaging include medical diagnostic kits, industrial and research test materials. Also, radioactive devices such as smoke detectors, luminous watch dials and special electronic instruments are shipped routinely by common carriers (i.e., truck, United Parcel Service, U.S. Postal Service).

The potential radiation hazard from an LQ packaging shipment is very low. However, if a large number of packages involved in such shipment were destroyed in an accident, it is feasible that measurable amounts of radioactivity could be detected in the debris.

Most radioactive material shipments are made using Type A packaging. Examples of materials shipped in Type A packaging include radiopharmaceuticals and materials from research and industrial sources.

The amount of radioactivity allowed in a Type A package is greater than that allowed in LQ packages. Accidents that may cause damage to a Type A package would not result in serious radiation exposure.

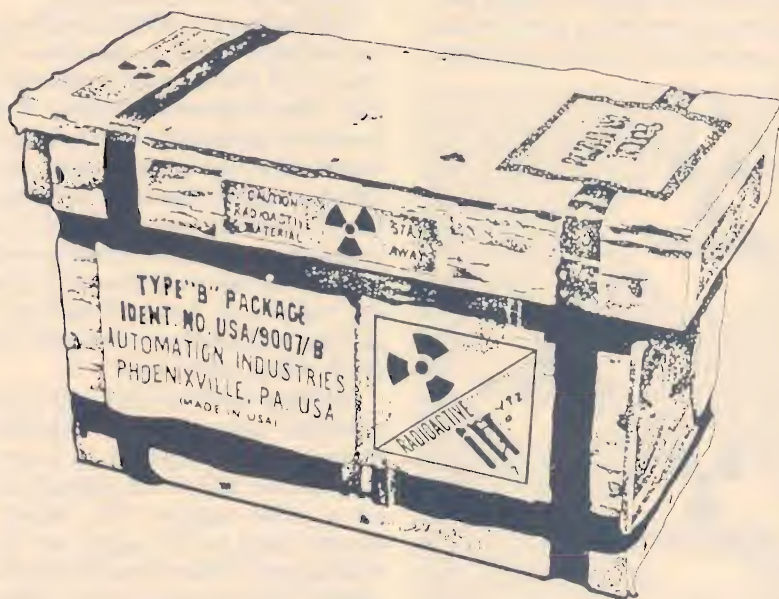
Generally, Type A packaging is designed to withstand the stress of transit under *non accident* conditions (including rough handling). It must also be labeled as "RADIOACTIVE." In accidents where Type A packages were severely damaged, records show that no adverse health or environmental effects resulted. This is probably due to the limited amount of radioactivity allowed in the packaging.

LSA materials are generally material in which radioactivity is uniformly distributed within a large amount of non radioactive material. LSA materials can also be non radioactive items with surfaces slightly contaminated with radioactive materials. Examples of LSA materials includes uranium ore concentrate, low-level waste from hospi-



The distinctive tri-blade symbol is universal for the identification of radioactivity or radiation.

#### Radioactive Material Package



There are basically four types of radioactive material packages being used today: Limited Quantity, Low Specific Activity and Type A & B.



# Radiological Transportation Accidents

tals, laboratories and power plants (i.e., contaminated protective clothing and trash).

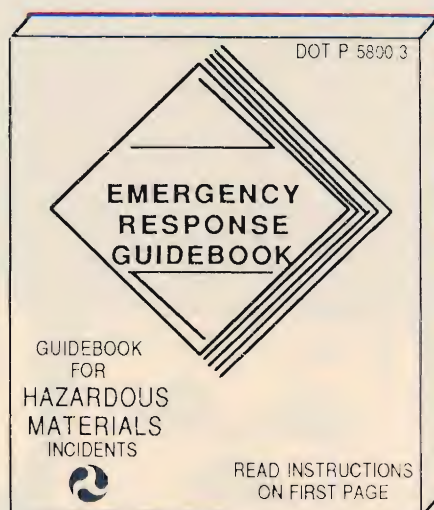
When LSA materials are transported by common carrier, they must be marked "RADIOACTIVE LSA." They must also be labeled and contained in packages that are Type A.

If LSA packages were involved in an accident, it is possible that large volumes of "low" level radioactivity could be dispersed.

High levels of radioactivity require Type B packaging. Examples of such materials include items from radiography sources, larger industrial and research sources and spent nuclear reactor fuel.

Most Type B shipments are made by commercial carriers, tractor trailers or railways. However, some, such as radiography sources which are used to x-ray construction welds, may be transported to and from construction sites in private vehicles. Such sources are normally carried in a heavily shielded container. Touching an unshielded radiography source would be extremely dangerous.

Because Type B packages may contain amounts of radioactivity which could be harmful, they are strictly designed to contain their contents under accident as well as non-accident conditions. Type B packaging also must withstand severe puncture, drop, thermal and water immersion tests simulating transportation accident conditions.



The U.S. Department of Transportation's *Emergency Response Guidebook* is used by fire, police and other emergency response organizations for dealing with all kinds of hazardous materials emergencies.

Nearly all packages containing radioactive materials are also required to be labeled "RADIOACTIVE." The exception, as has been mentioned, is LQ packaging.

**Labels** — There are three basic labels which are used to identify radioactive materials. All of the labels bear the distinctive tri-blade symbol. This symbol is universal for the identification of radioactivity or radiation.

The Radioactive White I label is used on packages with a maximum dose rate of 0.5 mR/hr on any exterior surface. The Radioactive Yellow II label is used on packages which have a maximum dose rate of 50 mR/hr on any exterior surface. Radioactive Yellow III label is used on packages with a maximum dose rate of 200 mR/hr on contact with the exterior surfaces of the package (note — in some exceptional situations it is used on packages with a 1000 mR/hr dose rate).

Highway vehicles transporting larger specified quantities of radioactive materials are required to have the Radioactive Yellow III placard placed on a white square! The labels are white except for the upper half of the Radioactive Yellow II and III which are yellow. The printing and the radiation symbols are black except for the I, II, or III numerals which must be red. The type of label — I, II, or III — quickly indicates to any informed member of the public, the radiation

exposure rate near the package if the package has NOT broken open. If the package is broken, the danger from radiation exposure might be greater due to the loss of shielding provided by the packaging material.

Usually, every package labeled as radioactive will also have a marking showing a certain "Proper Shipping Name" and a four digit "U.N. Identification Number" from the United Nations classifications system. As an example, the marking on a package might show the words "Radioactive Material, Low Specific Activity" and the number "U.N. 2912 for radioactive thorium nitrate." With this information, you and/or emergency responders can determine the proper response actions to take.

Actions keyed by a given proper shipping name or U.N. Identification Number include fire fighting strategies, leak or spill confinement techniques and first aid considerations. These actions are published in the U.S. Department of Transportation's *Emergency Response Guidebook*. This book is used by fire, police and other emergency response organizations for dealing with all kinds of hazardous material emergencies.

Other sources of information besides package labels are the use of vehicle placards. Placards are similar to labels, but are affixed to the exterior of a vehicle or freight container to identify hazards associated with the cargo. Shipping papers of radioactive materials being shipped are required to be kept in: The cab of a motor vehicle; The possession of a train crew member; A holder on the bridge of a sailing vessel; An aircraft pilot's possession.

Shipping papers will list all of the information provided by the package labels and markings.

Very severe accidents involving highly radioactive Type B shipments are improbable, but NOT impossible. Although dangers may exist when radioactive materials are involved in an accident, these risks may be exaggerated due to the lack of understanding by the general public.

Most people still do not know what can happen if sources of nuclear radiation are released into our environment. Educating one's self is the key to understanding the potential risks and dangers involved in any radiological emergency. ●



There are three basic labels which are used to identify radioactive materials: Radioactive White-I, Radioactive Yellow-II and Radioactive Yellow-III labels.



# SURVIVAL, INC.

## 72 Hour Emergency Supplies

In case of any large natural or man-made disaster, it takes about 72 hours for the National Red Cross and other emergency services to be in place to help. Therefore it is suggested that each family have a 72 hour supply of food, water, shelter, heat and light to protect their lives until state and national programs can take over.

Since no one can tell when a disaster will strike, many employers have purchased supplies for their employees who may be caught at work when a disaster strikes.

## Single Person 72 Hour Supply Includes Backpack



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A Good Survival Supply For Emergencies. This unit is an excellent base for providing a higher calorie supply by adding other items as money becomes available. Another feature that is nice is that it can be used as a six-month supply for a couple or a three-month supply for a family of four. When combined with your normal cupboard supply, you can see that it will allow you to help others for a short term emergency such as an earthquake, tornado, or snow storm.

The 60 cans, lids and cookbook come in 10 storage cartons that will store in a space only 24" wide, 18 1/2" deep and 38" high. The excellent canning and storage atmosphere allows for maximum storage life without rotation or refrigeration. ret. \$1150.00 freight collect

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Smith & Wesson:

# M65 .357

*Medium frame stainless six shooters. . .*

# Magnum Revolvers



The 3-inch M65 has more recoil and muzzle blast than the 4-inch but is more concealable.



The 4-inch barrel M65 has a square butt and the 3-inch has a round butt.



The pin used to provide extra strength in holding the barrel in place is no longer used in S&W revolvers but is considered superior workmanship.



By Jim Benson

**S**MITH & Wesson bills their revolvers as "the highest form of mature technology, evolved over nearly a century and a half of field testing and feedback."

No question about it, S&W revolvers (not to mention the auto pistols) are considered by many to be in the top of the line in American handguns.

We recently had the opportunity to shoot some S&W Model 65 .357 Magnum caliber revolvers loaned to us

from Golden State Arms Distributors, Inc. (630 Mary Ann Drive, Redondo Beach, CA 90278; 213-374-4086). GSAD which sells to dealers nationwide, has purchased a large quantity of Model 65s with 3-inch and 4-inch barrels from the Massachusetts State Police, who have switched over to SIG SAUER 9mm semiautomatic pistols.

The M65 is the stainless version of the S&W Model 13 .357 revolver, featured elsewhere in this issue. The M65s are medium frame six-shot .357s with heavy barrels. These guns come stock from the factory with a round

butt for the 3-inch and square butt for the 4-inch. The guns we shot had stock wood grips on the 4-inch barrel and round butt neoprene grips on the 3-inch barrel.

Overall length for the 3-inch M65 is  $7\frac{31}{32}$  inches while the 4-inch barrel is  $9\frac{5}{16}$  inches overall. Empty weight for 3-inch is 31 ounces and 34 ounces for the 4-inch. Sights are a fixed square notch rear and serrated ramp blade front. The trigger on our loaner 3-inch is the smooth combat style but the trigger on the 4-inch is the serrated target type.





Here you can plainly see the ramp front sight and heavy barrel of the M65.



The fixed square notch rear sight of the M65.



Swing-out cylinder and ejector rod insure fast reloading.



The identification markings of the former owner of these M65s.

We test fired these wheelguns with some Federal jacketed semiwadcutter 147-grain .357 ammo, firing without a rest from a standing position with one- and two-hand holds at targets from about 7 to more than 50 yards away from us. The 4-inch, of course, provided the best accuracy and the least recoil and muzzle blast. My quick double action shots with the 3-inch M65 seemed to be all around my targets. That DA trigger pull is a strong one and it'll take some getting

used to before I'm very accurate with this gun. I had much better luck with the 4-inch.

Both guns are very strong and versatile, able to fire standard .38 Special, .38 Special Plus P loads or any commercial .357 stuff, making them ideal for or personal defense to suit the firepower preferences of a variety of shooters, men and women. Swing out cylinders and ejection rods make reloading a quick and simple process, particularly if speed loaders are used.

While police departments are increasingly switching over to high capacity semiautomatics for duty guns these days, the venerable .357 revolver is still a formidable weapon in the hands of a trained and determined shooter. If you're looking for a durable, easy to use and reliable weapon and you don't feel you need the high capacity or high price of the new 9 millimeters on the market, the Model 65 would be a good choice for a personal defense handgun. ●



SI:

# McKeever Year Food Supply

*Dr. Jim McKeever works with Survival Incorporated to develop a year's food supply he recommends to his newsletter readers. . .*

## Staff Report

**F**OR over 15 years Dr. Jim McKeever has suggested to his newsletter subscribers that they include an emergency food supply as part of their financial planning.

Recently he worked with Survival Incorporated (SI) to develop a supply that he could recommend to his readers. The result is the SI Dr. Jim McKeever Year Supply with real meats and grain mill. It supplies over 1,700 calories and 75 grams of protein per day for one person for one year and is an excellent blend of air-dried and freeze dried foods.

This unit has 12 #10 cans of freeze dried real meats—twice the amount normally found in a year's food unit. There is also a quality hand grain mill for grinding the wheat and other grains included, a storage food cookbook and a dozen lids. Each unit has 96 #10 cans packaged in 16 same-size clearly marked storage cartons that will store in an area 25" wide by 18.5" deep by 54" high.

These units contain apple and banana slices, fruit blend, pears, grain-ola, rolled oats, white rice, winter wheat, red & white beans, cheese pow-

der, scramble eggs, peanut butter powder, instant milk, beef & pork patties, diced beef, pork chops, green beans, peas, corn, carrots, vegetable stew, potato granules, margarine powder, shortening, orange drink, salt, sugar, gelatin.

The Jim McKeever Year Supply is normally \$2,195 delivered. SI is offering it as a special for \$695 freight collect or three units for \$2,000 freight collect from SI, Dept. ASG, 15600 S. Figueroa St., Gardena, CA 90248; (213) 324-8855 or 8859; toll free outside California (800) 533-7415. ●





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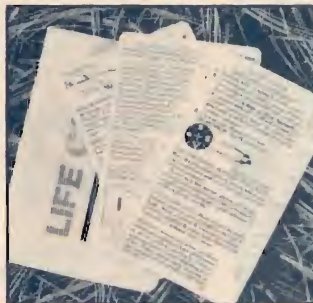


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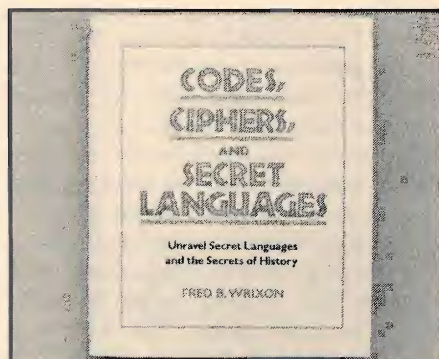


## BOOKS/VIDEOS

(Continued from page 11)

**You Can Find Anyone!** A Complete Guide on how to Locate Missing Persons, by Eugene Ferraro; Marathon Press International, 407 W. Santa Clara Avenue, Dept. ASG, Santa Ana, CA 92706; (714) 567-3141; 145 pages, softcover; \$14.95.

Here is a compilation of methods, tricks, and techniques used by the professionals when looking for and tracking down "missing" people. Learn how to legally obtain confidential postal and DMV records, get unlisted telephone numbers, locate birth/death and credit records, and obtain confidential county, state and federal records. With the advice and information presented anyone will be able to search secret and public records, locate military personnel, search for missing heirs, find old friends, debtors, etc.



**Codes, Ciphers, and Secret Languages**, by Fred B. Wrixon; Paladin Press, P.O. Box 1307, Dept. ASG, Boulder, CO 80306; (303) 443-7250; 272 pages, hardcover; \$17.95 plus \$3.50 shipping.

Codes, ciphers and secret languages have played key roles in history. This action-packed journey takes you through time, from ancient Egypt to political intrigue in Elizabethan England, from the American Civil War through the Cold War. Unmask the code that Benedict Arnold used to commit treason; discover Marie Antoinette's royal cipher; see how John Walker and his family slipped secrets to the KGB. Learn how to use these secret codes and many others in clear, easy-to-understand steps. At the end of each chapter the author provides a challenging and intriguing set of quizzes and brain teasers to test your knowledge of the preceding section. This complete volume includes Thomas Jefferson's cipher wheel, heliograph signals, Morse code, American Indian signs, Esperanto and more. ●



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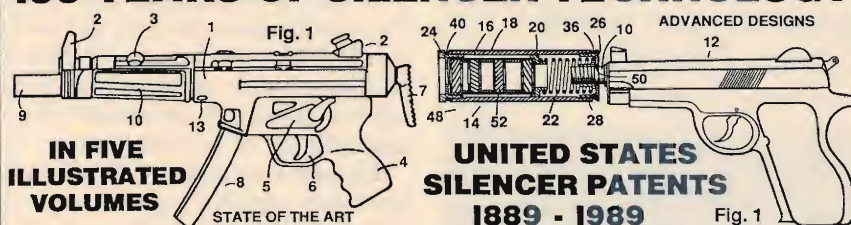
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# AIDS: Modern Plague: Alarming Reality

*A growing number of doctors and scientists around the world are taking issue with the official governmental view of AIDS. Some are becoming more vocal over what they consider to be the blatant misinformation being given to Americans by the public health establishment afraid of mass hysteria...*



Dr. William T. O'Connor is a board certified physician and surgeon in the State of California, and Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of California at Davis. A recognized authority on AIDS, he is the author of the book, *AIDS: The Alarming Reality*, and has testified as an expert witness before the California State Legislature as well as the U.S. Congress.

**By William T. O'Connor, M.D.**

*This article is reprinted by permission of the author and New Dimensions magazine (111 N.E. Evelyn Ave., Grants Pass, OR 97526; 800-877-3227. Subscriptions are \$24 per year, where it first appeared (Volume 3 Number 6). Dr. O'Connor, assistant professor at the University of California at Davis, is the author of the book, *AIDS: The Alarming Reality*, available for \$5 from H.I.V.E. Foundation, P.O. Box 808, Vacaville, CA 95696 — The editors.*

**W**ITHOUT reservation and despite any reassurances to the contrary, the viral disease commonly referred to as AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) is an awesomely frightening and ominously immediate threat unparalleled in human history.

Numerous realities of this disease have been selectively ignored and misrepresented to the public enough to detrimentally alter their perception of this pandemic, leading the average individual to believe that he or she is not personally at risk. This is, in part, due to the inadequate and misconceived response on behalf of public health officials as well as an incessant preponderance of biased, overly optimistic information being disseminated by the media and AIDS organizations.

An anxiety-provoking uncertainty pervades current objective thought when a disease Americans were told could not affect them continues unabated to the point where World Health Organization studies predict that up to 50 million Africans may acquire the disease by 1992 (ABC News, Peter Jennings, May 1, 1987). In New York City it is the leading cause of death for males between the ages of 24 and 44 and for women aged 25 to 34. When a disease known to science for just nine years has been diagnosed in over 90,000 Americans, has already killed over 50 percent of those diagnosed and estimated to infect up to 1.5 million, one must constantly question the appropriateness of the response. The response, thus far, has been characterized by a conscious pattern of decep-

tion and denial promoted by those who feel the need to protect the public from hysteria-generating information. When AIDS "experts" make statements that cannot be supported with acceptable evidence it is, in essence, lying. Upon countless occasions, respected officials, researchers, and media personalities have made statements with an inordinate degree of confidence that later were demonstrated to be false. When proof became available to demonstrate those fallacies, the average person responded with confusion, anxiety, then fear since it was obvious that an implied trust had been violated. Most people are not so ignorant that they fail to recognize when they have been misled; but, since none of them have the authority to cross-examine or hold accountable the authors of those flagrant misrepresentations, they can only turn within themselves to their darkest hysterical fears — herein is given cause for those fears to be justified.

AIDS is caused by a virus. Once the virus gains access to the body, it destroys the cells responsible for defending the body from most of the microorganisms that exist in the environment; and the person is slowly killed by the virus' invasion of the body itself, a multitude of contagious diseases, and/or many of the bacteria, fungi, and viruses that usually cause few problems in other people. The following is an overview of the true and alarming reality of AIDS in 1989:

\*In the U.S. there have been 52,435 deaths from AIDS as of March 31, 1989, with up to 215,000 deaths predicted by 1991. The World Health Organization estimates there are already 5 to 10 million people worldwide infected with the virus. Two independent studies accepted by the World Health Organization predicted up to 50 million Africans may be infected with AIDS by 1992, principally by heterosexual spread, and who are therefore statistically scheduled to die.

\*There is no cure on the medically foreseeable horizon since the virus exists as a contagious mutation by permanently incorporating its genetic material into the victims' chromosomes. A vaccine may be impossible to develop because researchers have demonstrated that the virus mutates five times faster than any known virus, changing its molecular surface coat so frequently that it evades the body's defense systems.

\*Those infected with the AIDS virus

*(Continued on page 46)*



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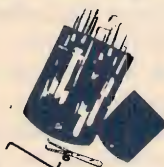
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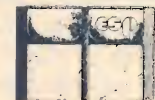
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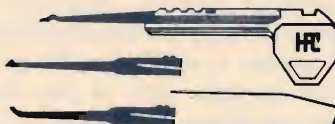
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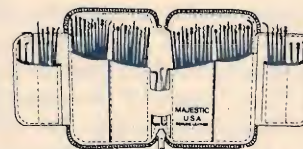
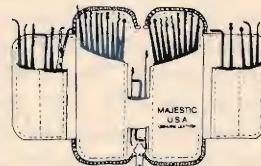
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# AIDS: Alarming Reality

(Continued from page 44)

frequently carry, cannot be cured of, and are highly infectious for, countless other diseases, including Tuberculosis, Cytomegalovirus (CMV), Salmonella, Herpes, and Toxoplasmosis. There is currently a Tuberculosis epidemic in the U.S. that has been directly attributed to AIDS. An incurable Tuberculosis-like bacteria, *Mycobacterium Avium Intracellulare*, has been found in up to 50 percent of AIDS patients on autopsy. It can infect young, healthy people without any immunodeficiency and has been shown to have contaminated hospital water supplies where high numbers of AIDS patients are treated. CMV is the leading viral cause of developmental disability in the U.S. AIDS victims also have a 20 fold increase in the incidence of Salmonella, which has also assumed epidemic proportions in the U.S.

**Heterosexual Spread** — AIDS is easily spread among heterosexuals. According to the Centers for Disease Control, 15 percent of all people infected by the virus belong to no high risk group. Already, in New York City, one in 50 pregnant women are infected by the virus. In one well-documented case, a symptom-less male engineer traveled through Belgium, having sex with primarily professional, middle class women. Out of 17 sexual contacts that agreed to be interviewed, 10 were found to be infected. Two of them only had intercourse with him once.

\*Condoms cannot ethically be promoted as a prevention for AIDS without including that they have an average 10 percent failure rate per year in preventing pregnancy. In one study testing their ability to stop the AIDS virus, three out of 10 spouses were nevertheless infected. In another study cited in *The Journal of the American Medical Association* (Aug. 14, 1987), "Condom use was not significantly associated with protection from infection."

\*Other modes of transmitting AIDS have been demonstrated besides the most efficient routes of sexual contact, contact with infected blood, and mother to infant transfer. Data indicates an eightfold or greater chance of being infected if one lives in a household with a person with AIDS. In one study in Africa, 39 percent of infected children studied had mothers whose blood tests did not show AIDS virus infection, leaving the mode of transmission

open to question. In 1985, the Centers for Disease Control cited that in European children with AIDS, 13 percent had no known risk factors.

Many individual cases exist where the mode of transmission cannot be determined (as in sibling to sibling transmission, or elderly impotent male to wife transmission). In an incident at the National Institutes of Health, the virus is believed to have infected a worker (who worked with gowns, gloves and hooded ventilation) through the airborne route. These routes of transmission may currently be infrequent, but they cannot be dismissed.

\*AIDS in the prison system demonstrates the absurdity of statements claiming AIDS to be 100 percent preventable. By mid-1987, 3 percent of federal prisoners tested positive. Not only does a short prison term now carry the real risk of becoming a death sentence (due to the high incidence of rape and forced homosexuality), but when the inmates are released into society, they will carry the disease with them.

\*Without question, Americans will be forced to bear the estimated \$38 billion burden of AIDS care for just the period through 1991 in the form of taxes and higher insurance rates; and unless immediate, definitive, and drastic measures are taken, the cost will forever escalate.

The epidemic's management has been manipulated to satisfy the homosexual agenda. Education alone will not stop this virus. The only hope people have is immediate, defensive, and logical political action:

1) The virus carrier state must be politically defined as infectious and communicable, so that existing laws can be enforced.

2) Public Health Departments must monitor those infected with the virus. People that spread the disease must be identified and isolated.

3) Mandatory and non-consensual testing must be immediately employed, whenever and wherever the disease is suspected.

4) Irresponsible behaviors that spread the disease must be criminalized.

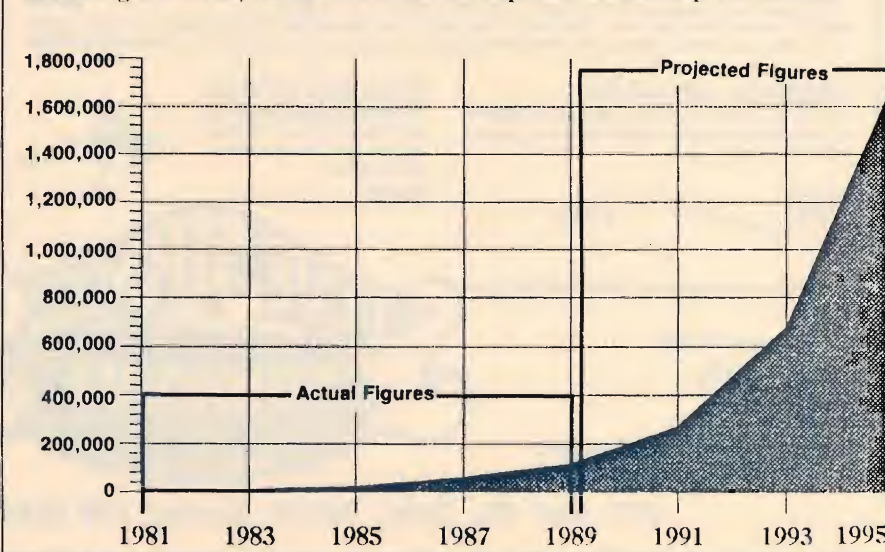
5) Persons who could potentially be exposed to the virus, such as health care workers, must be allowed to know who is infected.

6) Limited health care dollars must not be drained off to pay for fruitless therapies that offer little in the way of public protection or increased longevity.

7) The proposed anti-discrimination laws will prevent you from avoiding exposure to AIDS, as well as other diseases. Fight for your right to avoid infection. Do not tolerate passive genocide. ●

## Inexorable Spread of a Modern Plague

The number of AIDS cases reported has multiplied relentlessly since the early 1980s. At the current rate, 1 million Americans will suffer terminal, end-stage AIDS by 1994. This does not account for underreporting, which the Public Health Service estimates at 20 percent. It also does not include the high percentage of those Americans who have not yet been diagnosed as having the virus, all of whom can be expected to develop the disease.





# ASSAULT MEDIA, ASSAULT POLITICIANS:

***How they are using Pavlovian conditioning to disarm America***

The fact is, current media coverage of the "assault weapons" controversy incorporates, intentionally or not, all of the basic elements of the most sophisticated Pavlovian brainwashing techniques. If you have wondered why there is such a preoccupation today with firearms, rather than with the criminals using the firearms, read on.

Five children are shot dead playing in a California schoolyard. Many others are wounded. The camera zooms in on the bloody scene, surveying dead bodies and panic-stricken survivors. Immediately the camera pans to a close-up of a rifle. The reporter comments forebodingly: "The murder weapon used by Patrick Purdy was a deadly military assault rifle, a Chinese AK-47." In the background are heard wails of grief and mourning.

Exactly what happens inside the mind of the average viewer seeing and hearing this scene on television or radio? Isn't this type of situation a perfect opportunity for the media to exploit and manipulate a shocked and angry public?

The special issue of *NEW DIMENSIONS* magazine entitled "ASSAULT MEDIA" answers these and many other questions. By the time you finish reading the feature article, "Pavlovian Conditioning and the Disarming of America," you will understand many secrets of the news media, mass marketing, and mind control—secrets which people in high places would rather you didn't know.

Perhaps you are familiar with Ivan Pavlov's famous scientific experiments with dogs. What does this have to do with the recent unprecedented hysteria to ban so-called "assault weapons," you might ask? Simply this: the Pavlovian technique works very well on humans too.

Recently, a highly-guarded secret manual used by Russian brainwashing experts has come to light. Used in underground schools since the 1920's this textbook on controlling the masses declares: "Man is a stimulus-response animal. His entire reasoning capabilities, even his ethics and morals, depend upon stimulus-response machinery."

As an example of this type of conditioning, let us say that when you were young your father pushed you into a pond trying to force you to swim before you were ready. But look at what happens when, in your fear and resentment toward your father, you unconsciously transfer the threat from him to the water. You are now afraid of water! You have come to see water as a threat and have lost sight of the real problem. It happens every day.

Are you beginning to see the hidden connection between the fight against crime and the sudden national fixation on banning firearms?

When liberal politicians don't know how to deal with the real problems, they turn around and identify something innocent and manageable—and deal with that instead. So you see how easy it is to blame guns as the cause of crime, because guns are quite defenseless. But to

deal effectively with criminals, it takes wisdom and courage, qualities which liberals have lost.

The special "ASSAULT MEDIA" issue of *NEW DIMENSIONS* turns the media and liberals inside out, with startling, in-depth articles by recognized experts. The information in this special issue tears away the veil of confusion about the methods and motives of the liberal mentality that permeate the Democratic party, the news media, and certain special interest groups—what Ronald Reagan termed the "Iron Triangle."

*NEW DIMENSIONS* is a very different kind of news magazine. Sub-titled "The Psychology Behind the News," *NEW DIMENSIONS* focuses on the real, underlying reasons behind major news events. Whether it be youth gangs, gun control, AIDS, or just the twists and turns of politics, you will be fascinated to discover the actual mechanisms that lie hidden just beneath the surface of important news events. *NEW DIMENSIONS* is a clear and powerful catalyst for your own understanding of the world. This deeper, more insightful examination of the news has proven to be the missing link which most people feel is absent from standard news fare.

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## Blackjack Knives:

# Marauder MK-1-A

### Staff Report

**T**he Marauder MK-1-A is the military attack version of the Marauder MK-1 knife made by Blackjack Knives. It is patterned after the legendary Kopis blades used around 310 B.C. in the conquest of Greece, Persia and Egypt by Alexander the Great.

The same knife style was used by the Iberians and Celts who inhabited what is now Spain and Portugal. During the Roman conquest, the Iberian Celts were known as one of the more ferocious tribes. With their knife, known as the falcutta, they were able to cleave a Roman helmet in half.

The modern day Marauder can do some equally impressive work. Made of 400 series stainless steel, the blade is both specially heat treated and cryogenically (very low temperature) treated for extra edge holding and greater strength. The knife features full tang construction with a blade length of nine and a half-inches and an over-all length of 14<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-inches. The handle is textured Kraton in olive drab color. Each Marauder comes with a high grade leather sheath and nylon tie-down. (Retail price is \$89.95).

We found the MK-1-A to fit nicely in the hand. It is comfortable to work with and the Kraton handle insures a non-slip grip. We tested the knife out by using it to cut poles for a pioneering project the local Boy Scout troop was involved with. The Marauder does very well at chopping, machete-style, and the one to two inch saplings were cut in no time. Even when attacking hard eucalyptus poles, the Marauder easily got the job done. This would make an excellent camp knife, providing fuel for fire or for constructing a pole frame shelter in an emergency. For more information about the Marauder MK-1-A contact: Blackjack Knives at (818) 902-9853 or for dealer or retail sales information contact: Catocin Cutlery, P.O. Box 188, Smithsburg, MD 21783; (301) 824-7416. ●

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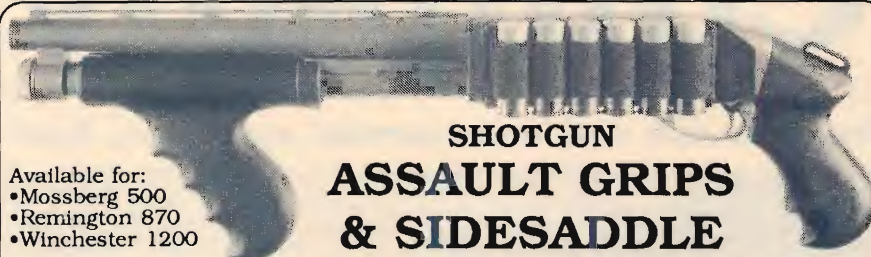


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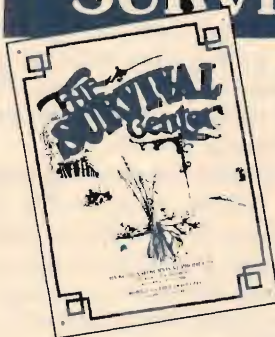
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Staff Report

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In business for more than a year now, the Hayden Tradin' Co. specializes in Army-Navy surplus, outdoor clothing and equipment and survival gear, storage foods and other items of

interest to the survivalist.

The owners said they started the business because they felt there was a need for good quality survival gear and foods sold at "decent prices." They are people oriented and their business has seen steady growth.

Hayden Tradin' Company can be contacted by writing them at P.O. Box 1666, Hayden, ID 83835 or calling (208) 772-7609. If you live in the area, you can visit the store in person at 9407 Government Way, Hayden Lake, Idaho 83835. •



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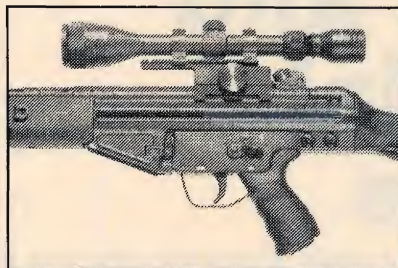
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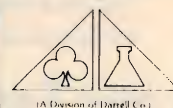


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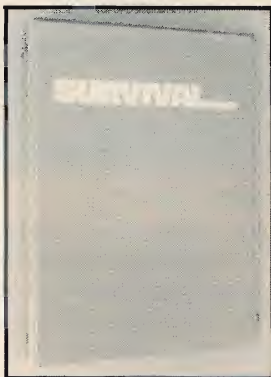
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# Dynamite and Commercial Explosives

***Explosives are risky, especially for those who become complacent or lack good common sense. . .***

— By Ragnar Benson —

*This article deals with survival uses of explosives and briefly discusses how to set up and detonate explosives. This is not intended as definitive instruction in handling explosives. Explosives are extremely dangerous and should not be handled by anyone who has not had appropriate instruction and supervision by a licensed and reputable explosives expert. The material presented here is for information only — The editors.*

**P**RIMITIVE or modern, Third World or developed, every economy no matter where in the spectrum from Albanian communist to Free Swiss has to run on explosives. Powder is used to build roads, level air strips, clear farm land, build sewage ponds, prepare construction sites, mine, and do hundreds of chores requiring portable power. Survivalists will need powder to divert streams, dig ponds and wells, excavate root cellars, remove logs and boulders, build privies and other work impossible without explosives.

Explosives are so important to the economies of nations that graphs can be drawn showing a direct correlation between GNP and use of dynamite. When powder usage is up, so is the economy. The months Trojan Powder Company shipments are off in this country, for instance, are the same months the economy is stuck in the mud. Laborers have to have explosives or their basic industries simply grind to a halt, wither, and die. More primitive survival economies will be characterized by use of commercial explosives. Dynamite will be available because commercial explosives are — in many respects — essential.

For this reason alone, would-be survivors can usually scare up some sort

of a supply of dynamite. The trick is knowing where to look and in knowing how to use this asset that might otherwise be neglected.

In times past, every other rural hardware store sold dynamite. It was

I fear the days of our government extending that much trust to its citizens is gone forever. Yet a ready supply of dynamite is still around. Survivors who have a rudimentary knowledge of the use of common explosives can manage to find it. The problem is that, in this age of crowded cities and narcotic TV, few people know how to use it or are even interested in training themselves to work with explosives. Far different from the early days when a set of basic how-tos on dynamite was part of everyone's repertoire.

Survivors who, in many cases, will revert back to older, less technologically advanced methods of doing many, many different things, may want to



The remains of a drug lord's home after it was blown up in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

easily possible to walk in, plunk down a couple of dollars, and buy a dozen sticks, six feet of fuze, a couple of caps and be on your way again within 10 minutes. Knowledge of how to use commercial explosives was virtually universal among our rural population.

Even our beloved, benign federal government got in the act. Uncle spent tons of our hard earned money publishing brochures telling us how to can beans, castrate hogs, stuff sausage and — you guessed it — blast things to hell with dynamite.

learn the traditional agricultural methods of handling explosives. Food, water and shelter all may be more convenient for the person who does. On the other hand, explosives are risky, especially for the person who tends to become complacent or lacks good, common sense. If you are one of these people, I would forget about explosives as a survival technique until it becomes absolutely essential to use them.

Common dynamite comes in three forms — loose powder, three-pound canisters and the garden variety half



A car is blown up using commercial explosives.



pound sticks. Unless the situation is really desperate, I wouldn't work with anything but the sticks. In all likelihood, that is all the average survivor will ever see anyway. Military explosives are similar to commercial powder. They have different uses with somewhat similar setup procedures; knowledge of the one will keep the other in a proper perspective.

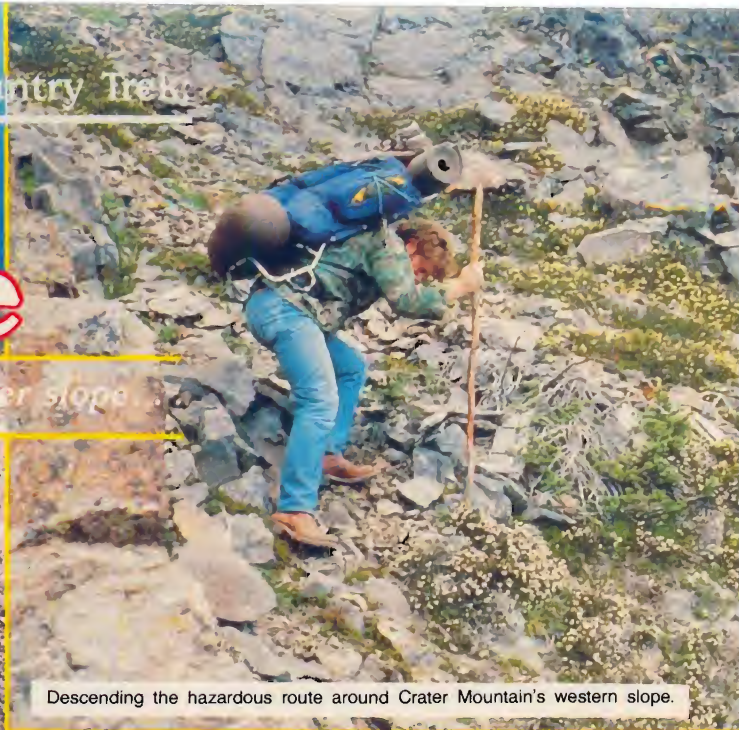
Another product, DuPont Trovex, looks like dynamite, handles like dynamite, fires about like dynamite but isn't actually dynamite. Should the reader run onto some of this stuff, I suggest treating it like hard-to-detonate dynamite.

*(Continued on page 60)*



# Mountain Experience

Switchbacks, unstable scree, and a steeper slope.



Descending the hazardous route around Crater Mountain's western slope.



My partner climbs out safely from a tortuous scree slope.



The author stares off into the Cascade Wilderness.

By Jim Watkins

**O**NCE we traverse this section of trail switchback and approach the base of Crater Mountain's western peak, it will be two days of cross-country trekking before my partner and I reach the Jerry Lakes. Although most of my wilderness adventures are solo, there is personal challenge, growth in leadership skills, and survival teamwork shared in the mountain treks I organize annually in cooperation with Live Free and the American Pistol and Rifle Association.

We leave the Granite and Canyon Creeks Trailhead on the rugged six-day circuit up and around eight thousand-foot Crater Mountain — one of the two highest peaks in Washington's Pasayten Wilderness. Our ultimate goal is to reach the Jerry Lakes, but the trip involves seven miles of steep trail, then three air miles of near vertical rock slides, hazardous rock faces, tundra, and snowfields. There is the

(Continued on page 62)





The North Cascade Highway stretches far below the western Crater Mountain lookout.



The rocky moraine falls away, revealing the sapphire blue waters called Jerry Lakes.



For two hours we climb the steep icy slopes.



The author climbs an unstable rock face.



Smith & Wesson:

# M13 .357 Magnum Revolver

*Well made, suitable for home defense, concealed carry. . .*



Howard Rand is caught in action while testing our little Smith & Wesson Model 13.

By Bud Lang

**U**NLESS you know exactly what you're looking for in a revolver, the selections from Smith & Wesson might prove overwhelming. They produce no less than 25 models, many with different barrel lengths and/or grip styles. On top of this, many of these models come in stainless or blued steel, so your selection is endless.

While seeking a good self defense handgun in a concealable configuration, I settled upon the Model 13 by Smith & Wesson. This particular model is manufactured with a choice of heavy barrels in three- and four-inch lengths.

The three-inch version comes with walnut round butt grips, while the four-inch is available only with wal-

nut square butt grips.

While the Model 13 is chambered for the potent .357 Magnum round, many choose to shoot it with .38 Special loadings. Not only is .38 Special ammo less expensive, but it delivers a lot less hand-biting recoil. This recoil is felt mostly with the standard walnut grips, especially where you're shooting the



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# M13 .357 Magnum Revolver

(Continued from page 56)

three-inch version. Of all the factory loadings, I believe the Federal 125-grain JHPs round bites the hardest. If you intend to do much shooting with .357 Mag loads, it's recommended you switch to neoprene grips. There's no reason to punish yourself.

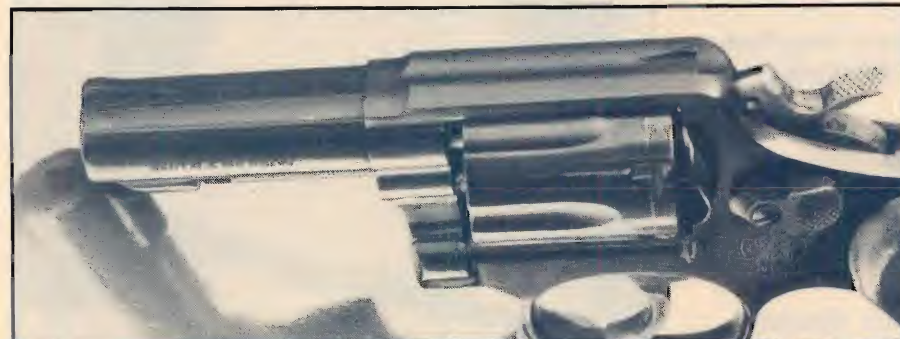
The version I selected is the three-

inch, which weighs only 31 ounces and is slightly less than eight inches overall in length. A gun of this size certainly doesn't need fully adjustable sights, and Smith & Wesson wisely designed it with a square notch in the top strap and a serrated ramp front sight.

When testing the Model 13 for this article, I ran no less than seven different factory loadings through it, shooting both slow and rapid fire, at distances of seven and 10 yards. While this gun is surely capable of hitting a small target at greater distance, the gun simply wasn't designed for shooting at ranges greater than 15-20 yards. Thus the reason all of our tests were at a closer range.

Our test loads were all of .357 Magnum chambering, and what with the small wooden grips, did their best to eat my hands up. While this gun produced reasonable slow fire groups, such wasn't the case when it came to rapid fire. Many of the rounds went astray, leading me to believe this problem was attributable to the small, hard grips that tended to dig in easily.

Like all S&W revolvers, this Model 13 is well made and quite suitable for concealed carry or use as a home defense gun at home or in the office. An accompanying chart illustrates the accuracy potential we realized. ●



Potential accuracy of this little three-inch barreled revolver is evident here where five rounds of Remington 110-grain SJHPs were placed into a 2.2-inch pattern from a range of 10 yards.

## S&W Model 13 Revolver: Tech Specs

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Caliber                | .357 Mag./38 Spl.  |
| Action                 | Revolver   |
| Barrel length          | 3 inches<br>(four-inch available)                                |
| Sight, front           | Serrated ramp  |
| Sight, rear            | Fixed square   |
| Frame                  | Steel, Medium Frame  |
| Capacity               | Six  |
| Weight                 | 31 ounces  |
| Overall length         | 7 <sup>31</sup> / <sub>32</sub> inches                           |
| Suggested Retail Price | \$329  |
| Manufacturer           | Smith & Wesson<br>2100 Roosevelt Avenue<br>Springfield, MA 01102 |

## Performance Chart — 10 Yards

| Cartridge       | Rapid/Slow | Group Size/<br>Shots Fired |
|-----------------|------------|----------------------------|
| Rem 125-Gr SJHP | Rapid      | 3.9"-3<br>(7 misses)       |
| CCI 110-Gr JHP  | Rapid      | 4.4"-3<br>(2 misses)       |
| Win 125-Gr JHP  | Rapid      | 8.9"-6<br>(4 misses)       |
| Fed 125-Gr JHP  | Slow       | 3.8"-5                     |
| Rem 125-Gr SJHP | Slow       | 4.7"-10                    |
| Win 125-Gr JHP  | Slow       | 2.3"-5                     |
| Rem 110-Gr SJHP | Slow       | 2.2"-5                     |

## Performance Chart — 7 Yards

| Cartridge       | Rapid/Slow | Group Size/<br>Shots Fired |
|-----------------|------------|----------------------------|
| Fed 110-Gr JHP  | Slow       | 1.9"-5                     |
| Win 145-Gr STHP | Slow       | .92"-5                     |
| Rem 125-Gr SJHP | Slow       | 1.3"-5                     |
| Win 145-Gr STHP | Rapid      | 7.5"-5                     |
| Rem 125-Gr SJHP | Rapid      | 7.3"-5                     |
| Fed 125-Gr JHP  | Rapid      | 4.1"-5                     |

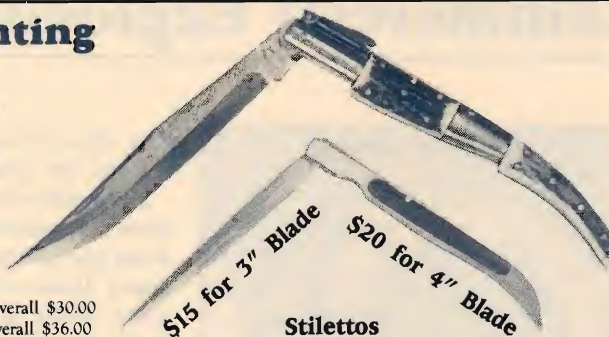


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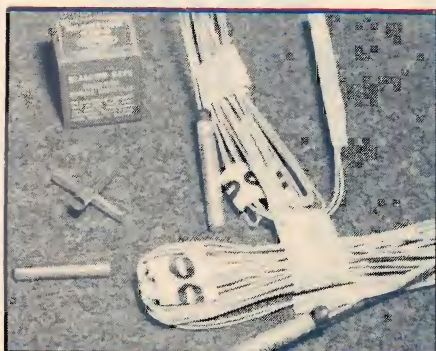
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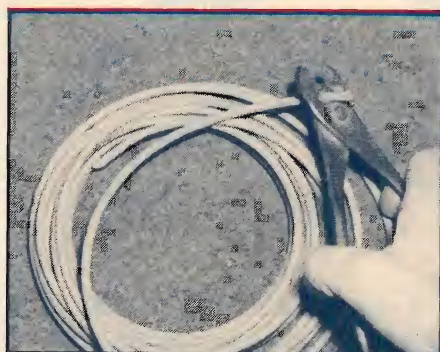


# Dynamite and Commercial Explosives

(Continued from page 53)



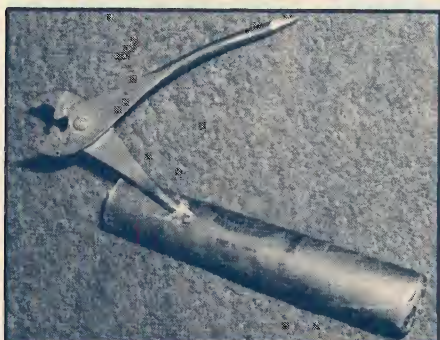
Close up of electrical and safety fuze type caps.



Cut about 1/2-inch off the roll of safety fuze to provide a fresh end for the cap.



Equipment needed includes, from right to left, a regular non-sparking dynamite tool, electrical cap, old plastic film case used to carry the caps, battery that can detonate a single cap. Small silver cylinder in foreground is a cap to be used with a safety fuze. The old tin box in the background contains 20 caps.



Punch a hole diagonally down through the side of the cartridge about three inches deep. Take care not to punch the hole out of the other side of the cartridge. Slide the cap into this hole.

Dynamite cartridges are wrapped in heavy, brown wax paper. They are about eight inches long and one inch in diameter. The ends and seams of the cartridges are tightly sealed to prevent spillage or leaking.

As part of his education, the survivor should pry open the end of a cartridge and look at it. This is not dangerous unless the cartridges are very old. Old cartridges are identified by worn, bleached wrappers and by deformed explosive prills that have started to melt out of the filler material.

Don't ever use, move or handle any cartridges that exude droplets of sticky, brown, oily liquid. Old, out-of-condition dynamite with these characteristics can be extremely dangerous. A complete soak in warm, thin oil will neutralize powder that otherwise may be too sensitive to move. Or, it can be detonated in place with a fresh capstick. Another method is to burn the powder on a bed of sticks or coal. It will smoke and sputter like scaled paraffin but I have never heard of a detonation burning commercial explosives.

The only way dynamite is sold these days is in 50-pound cardboard boxes containing 103 or so individual sticks.

The days of buying a few pounds at a time are gone forever.

Dynamite cases or boxes are of tough, heavy construction — much stouter than the average grocery store cardboard. These cartons can and do endure some pretty rough treatment in the backs of pickups, one ton trucks, powder carts and jeeps. Inside, the sticks are sealed within a six mil plastic bag.

Cost is about \$90 per case. To a limited extent, the type of dynamite has a bearing on how much a legitimate powder dealer charges. When I first started in the dynamiting business 40 years ago, I could buy all the powder I wanted for 10 cents a stick or \$8.00 the case. That was way before the current benevolent Uncle Sam attitude swept our land.

Survivors who have any idea where to look will find that locating an explosives jobber is not particularly difficult. Virtually every large city in the U.S. has somebody who legally sells the stuff. Peruse the Yellow Pages, or call a heavy equipment operator and ask him where he buys powder. Sometimes these contractors will let you have a case or two with very little formality.

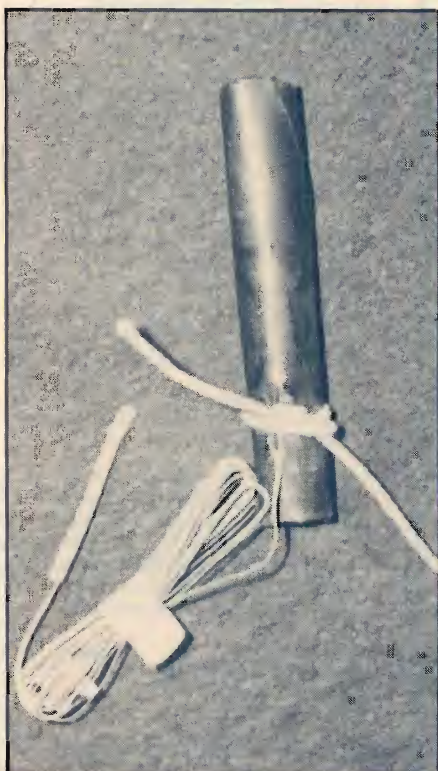
Other than regular explosives dealers, one can sometimes rustle up powder at construction sites, from road building crews, at logging camps, from farmers, at quarries and around mines of all sorts. In a survival situation, powder may originate from any or all of these sources.

The actual dynamite — the stuff in the cartridges — is generally composed of one or the other of two explosive agents. Either it is ammonium based, or it is made from material very much like nitroglycerine.

The unstable explosive is soaked into an inert material such as clay or cellulose. This gives the cartridge a great deal of stability.

**Rating Dynamite** — The finished product is rated on the basis of its power compared to pure nitro powder. The lowest rating I know of is 20 percent. The highest is 85 percent. All powder is sold and identified by its percentages, i.e., "I want 50 lbs. of 40 percent and 100 lbs. of 60 percent."

Lower percentage rated powder is slower reacting. It tends to throw or push rather than break or split. An important attribute for survivalists



Wrap a piece of twine around the cartridge, securing the cap to the dynamite. Both safety fuze and electrical caps are inserted using similar tools.



who will often have use for explosives as a portable substitute for mechanical or muscle power in the next economy. Never forget there is risk to using dynamite, but that the risk is often offset by the ability a single person has to perform beneficial work that could not be otherwise accomplished.

Forty percent powder, as an example, is used to throw stumps or large rocks out on the ground whole. Sixty percent with a mud cap works nicely to shatter large rocks. Eighty percent dynamite is referred to as HyDrive. It is so fast and powerful its principal use is to detonate ammonium nitrate fertilizer or to shatter rock for construction of a root cellar or fallout shelter.

Dynamite at or below forty percent is almost always ammonia based. The stuff is so stable it can't be detonated by firing a fast bullet into it. As one goes up on the scale, the powder becomes less stable. Sixty percent dynamite makes excellent targets, going off with a nice, resolute "boom" when hit by a .308 round. Some 70 and 80 percent powder is used for "propagation" charges in ditches and ponds. This material is the most sensitive. Propagation is a term for the art of placing cartridges two to three feet apart in wet mud or water and firing the entire string using but one cap. Other dynamite has to be touching stick to stick to detonate.

At one time I had the opportunity to throw about a dozen or so sticks of ditching powder one at a time off a three story building. In spite of the fact that they landed soundly on the solidly frozen drive below, not one detonated. However, I am still leery of this stuff. It stores poorly and, for this reason, may not be of much value to survivors.

Under normal circumstances the risky part of handling explosives can occur using the blasting caps. Caps are a little more sensitive than the cartridge themselves. Alone they have the power of a big firecracker.

Prepare a capped fuze by cutting about half an inch off the safety fuze, so as to expose a fresh surface. Slip the cap on the fuze, snugging it down on the end without twisting. Using pliers or a special crimping tool, cinch the cap onto the fuze. Reportedly, oldtimers performed this chore with their teeth, a method best left to oldtimers.

Using a 1/4-inch dowel rod or a non-sparking spike, punch a hole diagonally into one of the sticks of dynamite. The hole should be made from two to three

inches deep and should not protrude out through the other side of the cartridge. Slide the cap and fuze full length into the hole and tie it in place with a piece of fat twine.

All of these operations — crimping, punching and fuze cutting — are best done with a special purpose, non-sparking tool made by Diamond Tool especially for that purpose.

Do not twist or tie the fuze or electric cap wire around the stick in an attempt to hold the cap in place. Always use a piece of twine.

This cap stick should be tied into the center of the bundle of cartridges, if possible, or slide the charge into the center of the string if the sticks are placed on end in a bore hole. Be damn sure every stick rests firmly against its neighbor.

Cut the fuze back lengthwise an inch or so on the opposite end. This little procedure helps immeasurably to get the fuze going. Sometimes it is incredibly difficult to light safety fuze.

Properly lit fuze hisses and blows a thin stream of smoke when lit. A weak, yellow flame indicates that the linen and tar coating is afire but probably not the internal powder.

When using electric caps, unroll and test the drop wire running from the power source to blasting face before proceeding with anything else. I like to use a truck battery if possible. Vehicle batteries of almost any kind are large enough to set off a number of caps simultaneously. Also, one always knows with a reasonable degree of certainty if the battery is charged or not. Fire the charge with the motor running.

Flashlight batteries or a 110-volt outlet will also work for a cap or two.

Unless the charge is huge — 25 pounds or more — 200 meters is long enough for the drop wire. Another hint — always keep the wire ends shunted or tied together till immediately before the detonation.

The sequence should be as follows: 1. Lay out the drop wire and tie the ends together. 2. Position batteries or other power source 10 feet from the end of the drop wires. 3. Cap and place the charges. 4. Check drop wire again. 5. Connect leads from the cap charge to the drop wire. 6. Pull back and let 'er rip!

Placing dynamite so it does the most good is an incredibly difficult art. It is easy to use a lot of powder to accomplish very little.

The charge has to be positioned in under the material to be shot, and the

shock contained and directed — true enough, the movie veteran of dynamite notwithstanding. Powder laid on the top of the ground may not even skin up the grass when fired. Survivors who have the opportunity to practice should work on sets of the type they will need after the Collapse.

Misfires can be a real headache for a powder monkey. The best cure, in my estimation, is prevention. When teaching yourself to handle explosives, take some time to learn to do it right the first time. Set up a few fuzed caps and fire them without charges. By so doing, you can make sure the fuze is crimped properly and/or the electrical cap is correctly connected.

Next, graduate to setting off single stick charges. Should noise be a problem, bury the cartridge a foot or so in the ground and fire. It will be amazingly muted.

**Misfires** — Should a misfire ever occur, proceed as follows: 1. If possible, wait 24 hours before going closer than 200 meters. If the miss occurred with electric caps, the 24-hour rule is not quite so important. Electric caps either fire or they don't. 2. Try, when working on the set, to disturb it as little as possible. The best is to slide in a second, capped stick and try firing the whole string again. 3. If it isn't possible to position a second cap charge, try leaving the first charge in place and shooting the whole thing from a different angle or position by boring a second shot hole in under the first. 4. Some charges can safely be abandoned without threatening the natives. Underwater shots that don't go can usually be forgotten, for instance. 5. Damaged cartridges thrown out of a set undetonated should be lightly raked into a pile and burned, shot in the open with another capstick, or slit open with a sharp knife and scattered.

Store dynamite in a cool, dry shed away from people. Caps should be kept away from the main magazine. Contrary to what you may have heard on TV, dynamite does not deteriorate very rapidly. I have kept powder in good condition for at least four to five years.

Other than a select few who have had military training, the art and principle of the use of dynamite is dying in our country. Survivors who think they will need this skill had best start educating themselves now while it is still possible. In all likelihood, skill with explosives won't be a life and death situation. The survivor will simply live more comfortably and easily. ●



# Mountain Experience

(Continued from page 54)

possibility that we will climb the Jerry Glacier on the trip out.

I determine from the start to lead this outing safely. The harsh lessons I faced alone on this formidable mountain three years ago haven't been forgotten. The lack of adequate food left me thirty pounds lighter and critically weakened, and fear was my constant companion. It took considerable inner strength to pull myself through the ordeal safely. Uncomfortable memories from the experience are to remain with me throughout this trek.

The first three switchbacking miles of up hill trail are tough; my lungs work hard as I steadily carry my heavy pack. I advise my following companion to acclimate himself to the continual gain in elevation. We take frequent breaks to rest our laboring bodies, and to prevent altitude sickness.

It is the second afternoon and seven trail miles later before we reach the base of Crater Mountain lookout. We rest, staring far below at the North Cascades Highway. The surrounding sights and sounds are outstanding. The clear atmosphere echoes to distant thundering waterfalls. Awesome nine thousand-foot Jack Mountain towers northward; Jerry Glacier saddles Crater Mountain to the southeast; rolling Jackitia Ridge stretches toward the Pacific Crest, and the North Cascade National Park fills the craggy western horizon.

The man next to me looks very tired and I ask him if he is ready to tackle some cross-country terrain. I explain the two route possibilities and ground characteristics which confront us on this sector of Crater Mountain.

Immediately below us is a steep chimney of loose gravel which merges with a formidable snowfield, a frozen barrier that pierces a two hundred-yard wide scree slope. I state that this obstacle must be traversed, but point out an adjacent rock face that borders the chimney and top end of the snowfield. It offered me a solid handhold during my last descent here.

Continuing the discussion, I describe another equally steep route which cuts around and below the chimney. We retrace our steps several hundred yards to the alternate jump-off site, and decide to proceed, even though the day is well into the late afternoon.

From the moment our feet begin

picking a zig-zag route down and around the mountainside, we realize that one faulty step could mean potential injury or death. Steep cliffs characterize much of this area, and it's hard to look into the seemingly abysmal depths as we negotiate narrow shelves. Fear serves to keep us alert and aware of every step we take.

We both utilize walking staffs for support; the tool acts much like third leg on unstable ground. With mutual encouragement we wind a precarious path to the equally nasty scree slope. I ask my partner how he feels about crossing the barrier, and point toward the night's camp on the ridge adjacent

ing terrain; my increasingly sore feet no longer dig in securely, and this causes me to stumble and fall. My pack crushes me into the ground, and having lost my short temper, I roll over and sit. It is several minutes before my unsettled nerves calm. There is no room for anger on this dangerous mountain.

I observe my friend's performance, realizing that not just anyone has the physical stamina and temperament to tackle an experience like this. He stumbles wearily forward, plodding one sore step at a time. I have to admit a growing respect for his courage. I voice encouragement to the man, tell-



The mountaineers tie us off for the ascent up Jerry Glacier.

our present location. He complains about an increasing problem with his ankle, and says this is some very scary countryside. I agree, acknowledging that a person's life is in his own hands here.

It's time to bolster our courage and begin crossing the nasty two hundred-yard stretch. The agonizing time-consuming misery of tackling an unstable scree slope, with each step losing grip on the near roller bearing surface, immediately stresses our already tired faculties. My companion's personal welfare nags my conscience, but I forge ahead knowing from prior experience that better ground lies ahead.

I reach the middle of the excruciat-

ing him that we will be safe once we climb out upon the ridge above us. This is the place to turn back if he felt any problem with proceeding. Looking with disgust at the ugly scree slope, he tells me to get climbing.

The ridge surface isn't an easy traverse; it consists of unstable rock that defies solid footing. I look upward, calculating the safest possible route to the summit a hundred feet above. Making one hand or foot pressure hold at a time, we begin climbing. I don't look down until I reach the security of the ridge summit.

My hard-working partner is perched almost parallel with the rock and is obviously having difficulties. With some encouragement the man sur-



mounts his sense of insecurity, and clambers up with a sigh of relief beside me.

The night approaches and we sit far above the verdant Cascade valleys, watching a colorful sunset. The spectacular horizon is filled with seemingly hundreds of glaciated peaks. The full moon rises; the brilliant stars emerge, and for a brief moment we view the northern lights.

Tomorrow is our third day on the mountain and I think about the hike ahead. It will be good to rest our sore muscles for a few days once we reach the Jerry Lakes.

The decision to leave Crater Mountain places considerable responsibility for competent leadership on both of our shoulders. How does a person learn the skills and mature thinking to guide others through a self-reliance experience like this? There are excellent mountaineering schools, but I learned to take care of myself in alpine country through twenty years of solo trial and error. I feel confident about my ability to lead this trek through to its safe conclusion.

We're ready to undertake the final traverse into the lakes. It's a bright Cascade morning and my friend places the topographic map on a flat rock, after lining it up by compass on true north. He studies the terrain contours of our route, and shoots several azimuths off nearby Jack Mountain to confirm our coordinates. The Jerry Lakes lie one air mile across a deep glacially carved basin, and over Crater Mountain's northern shoulder. Our trek has averaged sixty-five hundred foot elevation since we left the Crater Mountain trail.

I study the terrain leading down into the glacial basin. It's a near vertical thousand-foot drop to the bottom before we regain the lost height. We begin switchbacking down and around lichen-covered rock outcrops. I utilize my walking staff continuously for added support, and also hang on to the increasingly thick scrub timber. Two hours of hard work will put us in the Jerry Lakes, and I am determined to reach that destination today.

Our steady pace gradually takes us up and over Crater Mountain's northern shoulder. We pass loose jumbles of stone slag, wild flower-bejeweled meadows, and soggy tundra growth. Several of last winter's melting snowbanks pass underfoot and we climb over a last knoll. Before us the rocky moraine falls steeply away, revealing the sapphire blue waters called Jerry Lakes.

I point out the deer track leading down to the lakes, and tell the man beside me to be careful because of the treacherous footing. Our feet scramble to keep balance as we progress down the narrow animal path. Showers of loose gravel knock free, cascading in miniature avalanches towards the basin below. It is important to keep as near as possible to the rock outcrop for secure hand and foot holds.

I reach a point where there are no holds and the gravelly trail traverses an abrupt drop-off. My already flowing adrenaline puts my sense of security on edge. A glance at the bottom and I freeze, trembling with fear. It is a struggle to get a grip on myself; however, I realize that absolute control over personal feelings is important in a dangerous situation like this. After catching a lungful of air, I make myself stand straight and start moving across the nasty spot. Everything is all right as long as I ignore the drop-off. My friend trails behind without mishap and we switchback the final slope into camp.

For two days we gratefully rest our fatigued bodies and catch Jerry Lake's

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### **I reach the middle of the excruciating terrain; my increasingly sore feet no longer dig in securely, and this causes me to stumble and fall.**

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plentiful cutthroat trout. We are in a very primitive location and the subject of our route out surfaces periodically in our camp discussions.

Jackita Ridge Trail stretches temptingly visible across the lake outlet canyon; however, I point out the near vertical contour lines on the map. This side of the canyon is composed of labyrinthine cedar jungles and hidden cliffs. The short route over Jerry Glacier presents a real option; on the other hand, we don't have ice axes and rope.

Suddenly I hear the tell-tale voice and equipment noise of fellow mountaineers. An associate party of Seattle's Mountaineers organization appears on the scene, and after a brief conversation we are invited to tie-off with them and tackle the glacier the next day. We sleep securely through the night with the knowledge that there is a safe route and quite an adventure ahead tomorrow.

It is now midday, and the climbers explain the simple but life-saving techniques of using the ice-axe. There are six of us; my friend and I have only walking staffs, so we will tie-off with one lead man and follow behind the party's footsteps. The three of us utilize a long climbing rope, tying a bowline and double wrap about the waist. Our leader expresses an absolute confidence that only years of technical mountaineering can provide.

We slowly switchback, chinking one foothold at a time up the seemingly perpendicular, icy surface. I dig in with my walking staff and concentrate on each step. I have taken nasty falls on snowfields before; removing attention from any mountaineering problem could prove fatal.

For two hours we steadily snake toward the glacier summit, enduring the sun's glare, and baking in the intense solar radiation. The final gap between Crater Mountain's twin peaks lies directly above, but we first must skirt a nasty crevasse and tackle a final steep snow bank.

My friend plods loyally behind, bringing up the rear. The snow showers from each plunging step he takes. We take care to keep unnecessary slack out of the climbing rope. One final effort and the team works its way out on top of Jerry Glacier. We rest while staring out into the mountain vastness. The mountaineers graciously point out the route along Crater Mountain's southern moraine to the trail.

We ask ourselves if this was a true survival experience. Anytime a person leaves constructed trailways and enters virgin wilderness, there are numerous encounters that involve personal survival. No, we didn't spend time practicing primitive fire building or other valuable skills that can be learned at home. This was a true mountain experience involving cross-country travel and bone grinding work.

The Mountain Experience is currently an annual event sponsored by Live Free and the American Pistol and Rifle Association. Both fine organizations further the principles of freedom, and openly advocate survival education and family preparedness programs.

I have mountaineered the Pacific Northwest's wilderness areas for twenty years, and it is my sincere hope that *American Survival Guide* readers will join us on these worthwhile treks. Live Free Nw. and the American Pistol and Rifle Association, Icefield Unit, can be contacted through their office at P.O. Box 11, Republic, WA 99166. ●

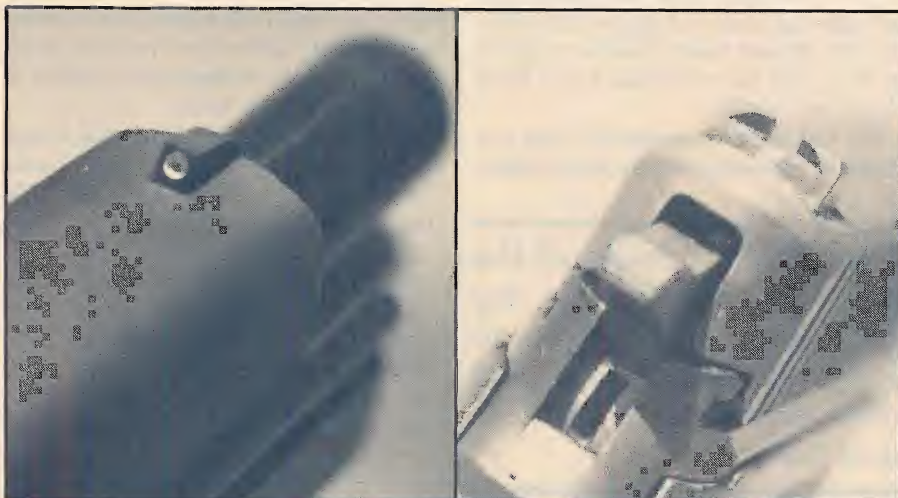


# P220, P228 Combat Pistols

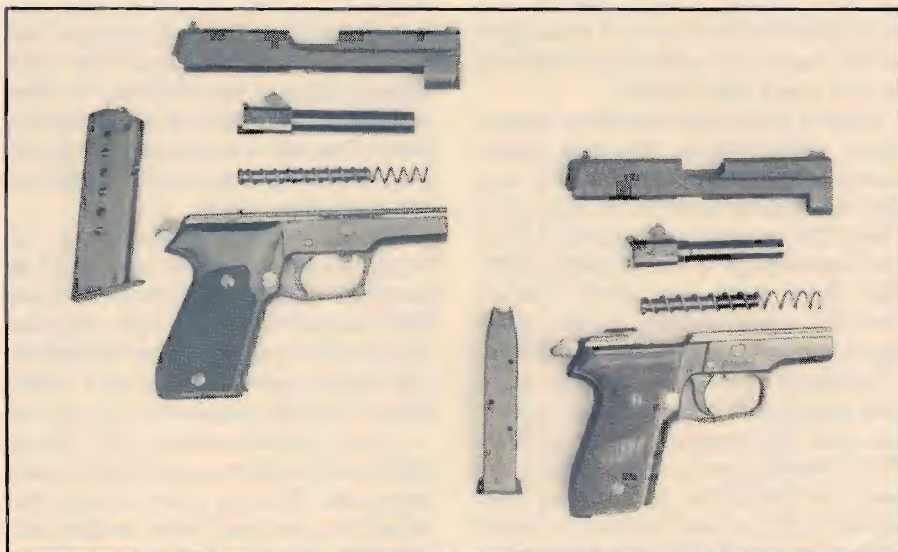
(Continued from page 24)



The weight distribution and ergonomics of the SIGs were designed to make shooting them comfortable and instinctive.



Front sights are a white dot ramp. Rear sights are square notch with white square.



The P220, left, and P228 field stripped.

pull is about 12 pounds. Single action pull is about 4.5 pounds.

Field stripping for cleaning is accom-

plished rapidly by removing the magazine and drawing the slide rearward to where it is locked in place by the

slide catch lever. Then the take down lever is thumbled down, the slide catch lever is released and the slide is pulled forward and off of the frame where the recoil spring, guide rod and barrel can then be lifted out for cleaning.

**Shooting** — In test firing the SIGs we used several types of commercial ball ammunition. We had no hollowpoint ammunition with us during the shooting session but these pistols are designed to fire them or any other type of good quality commercial cartridges.

Firing with one- and two-hand holds from standing positions without a rest at targets from 15 to more than 50 yards distant, we were please with the accuracy of the pistols. We fired at old bottles, cans and plastic jugs and were able to hit them often with our slower aimed fire.

We would have liked to have had more time and ammunition to thoroughly familiarize ourselves with these guns, but our brief encounter with them convinced us that they are indeed the top quality guns they are reputed to be. We experienced no malfunctions of any kind during the test firing.

The SIGs fit well in our hands and are very comfortable to aim and shoot with. The white painted sights aid in rapid target acquisition.

SIG guns are not cheap, but as the saying goes, you get what you pay for. If you're looking for a rugged, reliable, top-of-the-line handgun you can stake you life on, one of the SIG handguns in 9 mm, .45 ACP, .38 Super and .380 Auto calibers could be just the gun for you. ●

## SIG P220, P228 Pistols: Tech Specs

|                        | P220   | P2281       |
|------------------------|--|-------------|
| Caliber                | 45 ACP   | 9 mm NATO   |
| Action/operation       | mechanically locked, short recoil<br>operated double action semiautomatic                          |             |
| Lengths:               |  |             |
| Overall                | 7.7"   | 7.2"        |
| Barrel                 | 4.48"  | 3.92"       |
| Height overall         | 5.72"  | 5.44"       |
| Sights                 | semi-fixed white dot ramp front,<br>white square square notch rear                                 |             |
| Sight radius           | 6.4"   | 5.8"        |
| Rifling lead           | 16   | 10          |
| Rifling grooves        | 6  | 6           |
| Width                  | 1.4"   | 1.48"       |
| Weight empty           | 25.55 ozs.   | 26.075 ozs. |
| Trigger pull           | DA 12.1 lbs.   | SA 4.4 lbs. |
| Price suggested retail | \$720  | \$780       |
| Importer               | SIGARMS, Inc., Dept. ASG,<br>470 Spring Park Place, Unit 900,<br>Herndon, VA 22070; (703) 481-6660 |             |



# Shield

(Continued from page 27)

nuclear weapons, to turn their great talents now to the cause of peace, to give us the means to render those weapons obsolete... an effort which holds the promise of changing the course of human history."

He called for the Strategic Defense Initiative, the development of a system of defenses against nuclear ballistic missiles. Even if a person doubts the possibility or wisdom of such a course, the concept of a real protection against atomic destruction must hold a compelling fascination for anyone.

The two basic questions that need to be asked about SDI are, 1) can it be deployed? and 2) should it? It is a pair of questions about which a book could be written, and several have been. I will discuss some of the issues involved in these two questions.

This is an ongoing subject of contention as the technical feasibility has been neither fully proved, nor disproved and the question of whether or not it would be a wise course of action goes beyond the measurable and calculable into the area of philosophy, morality and guesswork. How would the Russians react? How would our future leaders?

It is a debate that is reminiscent of the argument of the last generation over the wisdom and efficacy of a nation-wide system of fallout shelters. Are they effective? Will they provoke a Soviet attack? First I'd like to discuss feasibility and the avenues of research being pursued in aid of SDI. It should be considered, however, that even as these words are being written, the information offered on the subject grows older and more obsolete. Scientific research in this area moves fast and is still largely secret.

The concept that "it can't be made to work" is always a questionable assumption about any technology. Every generation has scientists who prove that the certainties of the last generation are wrong. Some 30 years ago, it was common to have the impossible described "as likely as a trip to the moon." It has been 20 years since our astronauts did in fact take a trip to the moon. Impossible is a chancy thing. Possible "soon," however, is chancy, too. If SDI is a technology that belongs to our grandchildren, it will be expensive for us to find this out.

The three main elements of an anti-

ballistic missile (ABM) system are 1) launch detection, missile and RV tracking (target acquisition), 2) tracking coordination and weapons control and 3) missile and/or RV destruction.

Launch detection and rocket vehicle (RV) tracking are a fairly mature science, as such things go. Computer coordination and control of defensive weaponry has been a developing technology throughout the history of nuclear warfare, but must still be considered primitive compared to that which would be required of a comprehensive missile defense system.

The weaponry to actually destroy approaching enemy missiles and RVs is the least developed of all and the focus of most of the research in the field. It must be remembered that attempts at this are not new, however. In the 1950s and 1960s there was development done on the Nike-Zeus anti-missile, and of course the development and deployment of the Soviet ABM and American Safeguard ABM systems. All of these depended on

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## Research continues in high-speed computers. The use of new concepts in artificial intelligence and the use of superconductors seems to be important.

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damaging a re-entering warhead with a nearby nuclear detonation.

As well as being somewhat self-destructive, the United States, at least, judged these systems to be ineffective in protecting against attack. The great part of the problem is that both the coordination/control and defensive weapons sub-systems are overwhelmed by the enormous number of incoming weapons.

Research continues in high-speed computers. The use of new concepts in artificial intelligence and the use of superconductors seems to be important. Frankly, this element is the key to the whole problem and the part of the research that is least publicized and most secret.

There are presently fairly advanced Earth and space based detection and tracking systems. These are being upgraded by such things as high frequency backscatter over-the-horizon radar (the Russians have had such a system operational for close to a decade; it can be heard on an ordinary

shortwave radio; it sounds like and is nicknamed the "Russian Woodpecker").

Any ABM system would generate countermeasures such as decoys and other pen aids, and scientists look toward opto-electrical, laser, and particle beam stimulation techniques to help sort out the real from the false.

The most impressive advances have been made in defensive weapons. Research in destructive lasers have advanced to the point where stationary ballistic missile fuselages have been destroyed, and an AIM-9L air-to-air missile was shot down by a laser.

The Soviets are said to be far advanced in the field of particle beam research, but as yet they have not reached anything approaching a practical stage. Successful interception of a Minuteman RV has been made with an umbrella spoke-like device that depends on the great difference in their respective velocities to destroy the incoming warhead.

Perhaps the most promising avenue of research, kinetic energy weapons come in several different types. The Minuteman RV was intercepted by a device that basically got in the way of the high velocity oncoming vehicle. Other types of kinetic energy weapons involve the use of electro-magnetic railguns to accelerate a bullet-like projectile to extremely high velocity and have it shot as its target.

Research has progressed, on this technology, to the point where the use of miniature railguns are being discussed as a near-future tank-borne weapon. More exotic techniques such as nuclear detonation pumped x-ray lasers have been discussed. Proposed by Edward Teller, the idea would be to have a guidance system point the projection rods of a large satellite laser at many of the enemy's missiles and generate an extremely high energy x-ray laser pulse from each rod through the detonation of a small yield nuclear explosion.

The time that an enemy missile is most vulnerable to such a directed energy device is during its boost phase. One problem with this approach is that it leaves really no time for a human command decision to be made, and operations would have to be entrusted to computer directed automatic systems. Since ground based targets are not vulnerable to these ABM technologies, it might not present a danger to enemy population centers or military installations, but might cause the accidental destruction of peaceful space launch.



More mundane means of ABM defense, particularly point defense of our offensive missile silos, have been proposed using "off the shelf" weapons such as the Phalanx high-speed anti-missile cannon.

As I said, there is an enormous amount of information and research in this area, and it appears that we are nowhere near able to deploy a comprehensive missile defense system. Limited protection of our land based missile fleet may be possible in the near future, however.

**SDI Books** — In order to best understand the issues and options involved in the question of the Strategic Defense Initiative I recommend several of the books on the subject. The book that started the whole thing, really, is *The High Frontier* by General Daniel Graham. General Graham was an advisor to Ronald Reagan when he was a candidate for the presidency and although he gives credit for the program to the president, he is doubtless the author of the concept.

In the book he describes some of the strategic and technical issues and sets out some of the solutions. He, along with the other vocal proponents of the program, expresses a deep discomfort with the concept of Mutual Assured Destruction and has sought an alternative.

The interesting thing about the book, and one that has been universally ignored by the press, is that a missile defense system is discussed in the context of an overall exploration and exploitation of the resources of nearby outer space.

In my opinion, it is this discussion that is of an importance that transcends the immediate issue of missile defense. It brings to mind the fact that places like Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Fort Worth, Texas, were once frontier military outposts, not the modern cities they are today.

A book that explores this in greater detail is *Mutual Assured Survival*, prepared by Doctors Jerry Pournelle and Dean Ing from a report by the Citizens Advisory Council on National Space Policy. Members of the Council include scientists, astronauts, writers, engineers, military and industrial leaders. It reminds one that the resources of space may include the answers to problems other than strategic security.

In all of these books on the subject, the question arises time and time again, is there no other option for national and global security than the United States and the Soviet Union pointing 10,000 H-bombs at each other?

Both the United States and the Soviet Union have a considerable portion of their nuclear weapons counterforce targeted, that is, aimed at the nuclear forces of their opponent. In other words, we shoot at their nukes, and they shoot at the nukes that are aimed at their nukes... and so on.

The problem is immeasurably complicated and made more dangerous and unstable by the development of highly accurate MIRV weapons, especially those deployed in a mobile mode. These include the more advanced Trident and proposed mobile MX, the Soviet SS-24,

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**Successful interception of a Minuteman RV has been made with an umbrella spoke-like device that depends on the great difference in their respective velocities to destroy the incoming warhead.**

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SS-25 and at least some of the Soviet SLBMs. These weapons make perfect counterforce weapons. They are accurate enough to just about guarantee the destruction of even a hardened enemy missile silo, yet almost immune, themselves, by virtue of their mobility.

The only answer to this problem under the MAD concept is a policy of launch on early warning, that is the launching of the majority of one's vulnerable land based weapons upon first detection of enemy weapons launch, to assure that they will be used before they are lost to a first strike.

This is an extremely dangerous option, and one that demands a degree of launch preparedness that invites a disaster based on a technical mistake. The fact remains, however, that potential "first strike" weaponry is presently operational in the arsenals of both nations.

What are the alternatives to this increasingly unstable situation? Deploy more counter-counterforce nuclear

weapons? Perhaps the answer is not to deny the need of both nations for a counterforce option, but rather provide a counterforce option that does not involve weapons of mass destruction.

Even counterforce nuclear weapons, if used even in limited numbers, studies have indicated, will have hugely adverse impacts on civilian population centers. Even a small mistake, even one that did not in fact trigger a massive retaliation, would be terribly destructive.

The option proposed by the Strategic Defense Initiative is to provide both powers the option of targeting their opponent's nuclear weapons in such a way that 1) they can be of no danger to the opponent's civilian population centers, industrial plant, agricultural resources, or military establishment, and 2) cannot actually *do* anything until an opponent actually launches something. Even then, the only consequence of a terrible miscalculation (hopefully no more likely than one under the present circumstances) would be the destruction of an opponent's spacecraft, or satellite. The subject of great acrimony, no doubt, but not of the same degree as detonating nuclear weapons on their soil.

A worst case scenario would be the death of a spacecrew, highly unlikely and certainly preventable, but not the death of a world. It has been claimed that MAD is only the concept of a budget conscious secretary of defense to justify not attempting to keep up with Soviet missile developments, and not a concept that has ever been accepted by the Soviets. Their continued deployment of mobile counterforce weapons certainly calls into question their belief in MAD.

In any case, there are so many weapons now deployed, by the super powers alone, that a war, deliberate or through miscalculation or technical mistake, would have grave consequences for all the Earth.

A massive reduction in the number of bombs would not reduce, in my opinion, the security of either side... unless the other's remaining weapons were still counterforce and could destroy their opponent's weapons, holding them captive to an unanswerable nuclear threat. If a great nation could develop a defense that did not involve deploying further weapons of mass





A Lance short range ballistic missile is destroyed by a Patriot anti-aircraft missile using only conventional explosives (Courtesy of the U.S. Army).

destruction, it might be able to conduct a program of mutual reduction of strategic nuclear weapons on a massive scale without fearing that it was losing its only possible answer to duplicity by its opponent.

**Non-Super Power Nukes** — Another scenario is the possibility of a non-super power using nuclear weapons. I think that there is nothing at all unlikely about this possibility.

Such an exchange, may only be a matter of time. Already, in addition to the U.S. and the Soviet Union, Britain, France, China, India and almost certainly Israel have tested and are likely in possession of nuclear weapons. Many other nations are only a step away from developing similar capabilities, if they are of a mind to do so.

And what nation would withhold the use of such weapons if it were the last option before national destruction?

The scenario most often pictured would be an Israeli nuclear attack in the face of imminent overrun by Arab armies. Since such volatile nations as Iraq are close to nuclear capability, is the use of these weapons not almost inevitable at some point?

It must be remembered that the poor man's weapon of mass destruction, poison gas, has been used often by Iraq . . . and that against both a fellow Moslem nation and ethnic minorities among its own population. The worst possibility is the "wild card" scenario. The situation in which a fanatic and possibly mad leader might embark on a program of nuclear attack even against one of the giants.

What would we do if, without the consent of his people, such a leader launched a ship borne nuclear rocket

or cruise missile at the United States or the Soviet Union? It is all too possible. Short and medium-range missiles of this sort, capable of carrying a nuclear warhead, are available in the Third World and have been used in war. The extensive conventional missile attacks against the cities of Iran by Iraq were done with Soviet missiles, like the "Scud," that in Europe, carry tactical nuclear warheads. What would our response to such an attack be? Nuclear bombardment of the cities of the attacking nation with the killing of largely innocent populations? Or just a conventional military response, with the implicit invitation for someone to do it again? There is no good answer, and there is no defense, *none at all*, to such an attack.

MAD is quickly becoming a dead letter. It may or may not have provided us with global security. That is a question for future philosophers to ponder. It is nonetheless an era that is coming to an end. The question remaining is whether it will be replaced by a race to develop more numerous and more accurate and more invulnerable nuclear weapons, or attempt to find a technology that will accomplish the sought after security needs of our nations without the danger inherent in nuclear weapons themselves.

First, the research to find out if there is such an option open to our generation . . . or the next. Then, if it is possible, deployment of a *real* defense, the first in generations, that is available to any nation. An expensive, but not inherently dangerous competition of technologies, and an end to the threat of nuclear MADness. The fate of the human race could easily depend on our answer to this question. ●

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# 1989 Giveaway No. 1 Winners

*Former U.S. Marine  
wins top prize. . .*

## Staff Report

**R**ichard A. Roush, 40, of Suisun City, California, won ASG's top prize in the 1989 giveaway contest No. 1. He is now the proud owner of a new TZ-75 Series 88 9mm semiauto pistol from F.I.E. Corp., retail value \$450. Richard says he gained his shooting experience while serving in the Marine Corps in 1972 and has been an avid shooter ever since. He presently works as a truck driver and buys ASG every month to learn about the latest survival products.

David Giuntoli, 28, of San Diego, California, won the R.S.I. Field PAC Kit from NITRO-PAK Survival Foods & Supplies. This second place prize is worth \$325 and is a high quality E.M.T. type first-aid kit that has been tested by military and government agencies for more than five years.

The third place prize, a SOG Tiger-shark bowie knife, went to Steve Kahle, 36, of San Antonio, Texas. Steve is an A/C appliance technician. The Tiger-shark has a nine-inch long blade and is valued at \$140.

This contest proved to be very popular with over 3,700 responses. Contest No. 2 had roughly 2,500 entries. Winners were drawn for the 1989 Giveaway No. 2 Contest and will be announced shortly. ●

# SURVIVALIST DIRECTORY

**T**HIS IS A CONFIDENTIAL listing of survivalists who wish to become known to others of like mind. *American Survival Guide* will accept properly coded mail and forward it to the coded addresses without charge. *American Survival Guide* accepts no responsibility for the contents or results of these confidential communications. Mass mailings are not permitted.

## ASG 1201

**Willamette Valley, Oregon.** Looking to start a small group. Families welcome. Send a resume of experience and interests, also military or medical training helpful but not necessary. No Rambos, commies or racists. We only want serious inquiries.

## ASG 1202

**San Jose, California.** 22 year-old male looking to correspond with other survivalists in California. Age, race, sex not important. Also interested in forming a paramilitary survival group in my general area. Please, no anti-Americans, crazies, druggies or gays. All serious responses answered.

## ASG 1203

**Vancouver, British Columbia.** Small, politically aware Christian survivalist organization seeks right-wing groups and individuals to exchange information and possibly merge into a cohesive, well-trained survivalist body. Absolutely no commies, gays, druggies or pacifists.

## ASG 1204

**Pasadena, California.** Lone survivalist wishes to join active group in the county. Married, mature, skilled and conservative. Will respond to all letters.

## ASG 1205

**United States.** Interested in forming an international survivalist network. We publish a monthly newsletter including a survivalist directory, equipment and weapons reviews, and various articles. Will accept all ages. No Satanists, druggies, crazies or flag burners need apply.

## ASG 1206

**Western, Massachusetts.** Two young survivalists looking for a paramilitary group to join. We are well-equipped. We are well-trained, but are looking for someone who would sharpen our skill. No gays, commies, druggies, liberals or anarchists need apply.

## ASG 1207

**Southwest Pennsylvania.** Looking to set up information chain for people of like mind in area and throughout the nation. Looking for connections when through with tour in USMC. Have lots of info, experience, and knowledge to share. All letters answered. Will not discriminate against sex, color or age. The usual dregs need not write.

## ASG 1208

**United States.** Willing and able, young male seeks information on paramilitary groups to train and enroll for any impending disaster.

## ASG 1209

**United States.** Wanted all gunowners who are angry enough to put gun haters on the defensive and help destroy the powerful gun hate lobby. Contact JPFO (Jews for the Preservation of Firearm Ownership) today and join our team. Learn how our gutsy approach hits liberal gun haters hard and often.

## ASG 1210

**Joplin, Missouri Area.** Serious minded survivalist to form a new group — seeks contacts. All phases included. Especially for those who have that something special to offer and share — willingness, knowledge and training, etc.

## ASG 1211

**Memphis, Tennessee.** Husband and wife 40 years old, both Christians, wish to form or join a survival group in the Memphis area. Also wish to make contact with other groups or people with same inten-

tions. All inquiries answered. We plan to survive after the long night.

## ASG 1212

**Durham, North Carolina.** I am a 27-year-old married male with a child on the way. I am ex-Special Forces with an honorable discharge and would possibly like to join a serious, non-extremist, military-like survivalist group for friendship, training and mutual aid in a crisis. We will probably be relocating to the North Carolina mountains or the Beckley, West Virginia area in November (89) depending on job availability. Please only non-extremist, family oriented serious groups need apply.

## ASG 1213

**Ventura, California.** Young family looking to network/correspond with groups or families in California or nation-wide. Exchange info, ideas and perceptions. Kooks and extremists save your stamps.

## ASG 1214

**Colorado.** Young married couple looking for established Colorado group. Low profile, support/help and exchange of knowledge and abilities. No gays, communists or druggies. Race/religion not a factor.

## ASG 1215

**United States.** Attention all survival organizations, groups and individuals. A national meeting is in the works and the planning stages to get survival minded people together to form alliances. Any organizations, groups and individuals that are interested in attending or for more information, please send a self addressed and stamped envelope. Alone we cannot make it, together we can survive.

## ASG 1216

**Hempstead/Waller County, Texas.** Survival/defense group forming from ground up. Families, singles, teens invited. List your degrees, skills and experience. No racists, Satanists, nazis needed.

## ASG 1217

**Anderson, South Carolina.** 23 year-old male with military training wanting to hear from all survivalist organizations in South and North Carolina.

## ASG 1218

**Kentucky — Tennessee.** I'm currently serving in the U.S. Army as an infantryman and my next duty station is Ft. Campbell, Kentucky. Would like to correspond with survival minded persons (male/female/group or individual) in the area. Persons in Southern Ohio please reply also. I believe in self-reliance and survivalism not Satanism, nazism or racism.

## Address response letter as follows:

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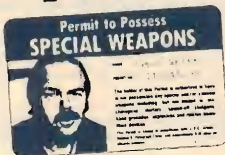
Your letters will be forwarded to persons listed within two days of receipt. *American Survival Guide* accepts no responsibility for loss or delay of letters. Contact letters that do not carry the appropriate code number will be discarded.

Those who wish to be added to the directory listing, please send names and addresses to *American Survival Guide*, 2145 West La Palma Avenue, Anaheim, CA 92801. The listing is free. ●



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# MAIL CALL

## Gloom and Doom Survival

For the last 21 years, I have been in the business of supplying food and equipment for those who feel that being prepared is an important part of their insurance program. During that time I have written many articles and with Mel Tappan started a survival newsletter, but this is only the second time I have written a letter to a magazine or newspaper. I am disgusted and in some ways ashamed of an advertisement that you recently ran in your excellent magazine. It showed a skull and crossbones and talked about people starving if they did not buy a certain product right now. I have not seen the scepter of gloom and doom being raised in this fashion for over 10 years. Add to that the fact that the advertisement tied in quotes from one of the most respected men in the preparedness industry, Howard Ruff, that are taken 10 years out of context, and I must come to the conclusion that the person who wrote the ad is either very new to the business or very crass. I believe ads such as this demean the whole idea of emergency preparedness. First they give the impression of gloom and doom that myself, your magazine, and the industry as a whole have been trying to shake off for years. They portray anyone who makes preparation to secure their future as, in a pejorative sense, a "survivalist." They are portrayed in the press as "mountain men," "fanatics," "gloom and doomers," "gun nuts" and held up to ridicule. The ad that was in your magazine only contributes to the impression and tends to scare more people away than it does to draw people into the movement. It makes it seem that if you are concerned with your food supply, your power supply, and your financial security you are out of touch with the world. It also demeans the readership of your magazine. I have found that those who read *American Survival Guide* tend to be already convinced that there is a need to prepare for their family's future. To believe that old fashion out-of-date scare tactics will "make" them buy is foolish and greatly underestimates their intelligence. I

believe that any intelligent person who reads the papers and your magazine knows there is a need to provide some emergency protection. It may be for 72 hours in case of an earthquake or other natural or man-made disaster that cuts off supplies or demands evacuation for a few days. It may be for camping or hunting accidents. Or it may be for a year or two if a major disruption in the nation or the world occurs. I have often written that my definition of a survivalist is one who sees a need to prepare for emergencies and does it. It is a foolish person indeed who buys protection without seeing the need or because he or she is scared into it by some "survival" guru or salesman. I hope that this advertiser will mature and grow up to the level of his and your customers. His services are welcome in the industry for there are never too many of them, his gloom and doom advertising is not.

Bill Pier  
Provo, Utah

## Jewish Gun Hate

This letter is in response to Aaron Zelman's missive, "Jewish Gun Hate" (Sept. 1989). If Mr. Zelman has a beef with anti-gun ownership advocates, he certainly has every right to express his criticism of their message. But, by attacking the Jewish people collectively for the anti-gun stance of some, he seems to be trying to encourage what he claims to fear — a retaliation against the Jews. Most troubling is Zelman's inclusion of such anti-Jewish canards as, "Jew politicians are a bunch of communists." By bracketing these indictments with quotation marks, he insinuates that he is merely repeating offensive statements that have been broadcast by others and is not the originator of them. Nonetheless, whether this vitriol is his own creation or a rehashing of viewpoints voiced by others, its repetition in *American Survival Guide* is wholly inappropriate. In addition, it is unfortunate that Mr. Zelman singularly attributes America's place in the world community as a bastion of freedom to our "armed citizenry."

If he were at all mindful of history, he would recognize that this country was founded by immigrants fleeing religious persecution. Mr. Zelman's use of the appellation, "Christian America" clearly exposes his ignorance of history. It also illustrates a thorough disregard for an essential foundation of this nation — a government which protects the right of all citizens to freely practice their faiths while favoring no one religion in particular. We could certainly do without letters such as Zelman's sowing seeds of dissension between Christians and Jews.

Betsy R. Rosenthal  
Western States Counsel  
Anti-Defamation League of  
B'nai B'rith

*Aaron Zelman's letter was also published in the Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle and elsewhere. We realize that his views are controversial and his language strong, but we are also vitally concerned about the drive in this country to eliminate public firearms ownership and that many — though by no means all — liberal Jews are at the forefront of that movement, which of course includes many non-Jews as well. And at the same time we don't want to give the impression all Jews are anti-gun ownership, as there are a considerable number who are pro-gun and pro-freedom who read, write for or advertise in this magazine, and the pro-gun movement desperately needs the support of these Jews. Nevertheless, as former Anti-Defamation League National Law Director Elliot Rothenberg wrote in the February 1988 American Rifleman magazine, "much of the established Jewish leadership in the U.S. has been reflexively banging the drum for gun control... seven major Jewish rabbinical and lay organizations" were reported by American Rifleman "to be among the most active participants in coalitions pushing for gun control... No other religious body has as many groups listed or has made such a sweeping commitment to the cause." Rothenberg adds that "The different fates of European and Israeli Jews in the past half century demonstrate the folly of a disarmed citizenry entrusting its rights and welfare to the supposed benevolence of its government. None should be more cognizant of this than the Jewish organizations so enamored of gun control." ●*



Promise Or Peril?:

# Food Irradiation

*Some 32 countries have approved some applications of food irradiation . . .*

By Michael Pietrantonio

**W**E see the day when you can go into a supermarket and buy a barbecued chicken that has been cooked, vacuum-packed and irradiated. It can sit on the shelf for eight years, and all you'll have to do is heat it up." So says physicist and founder of a company called Radiation Technology Inc., Martin Welt.

Increased shelf-life is but one of the benefits promised by the fledgling U.S. food irradiation industry. Other advantages cited for food irradiation include a drastic reduction in the number of food poisoning cases seen in this country each year. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, USDA, food irradiation could eliminate 90 percent or more of the 40,000 annual salmonella food poisoning cases in the U.S. One of the most far-ranging benefits for this technology is the potential of making a major impact in the fight against world hunger. The World Health Organization, WHO, notes that some 25 percent of the entire global production of food is destroyed by spoilage each year. They see food irradiation as a promising method for greatly reducing this loss and increasing world food supplies.

On the other side are those who claim that food irradiation is unnecessary, economically unsound, environmentally unsafe, and of greatest concern, potentially hazardous to the health of the American consumer.

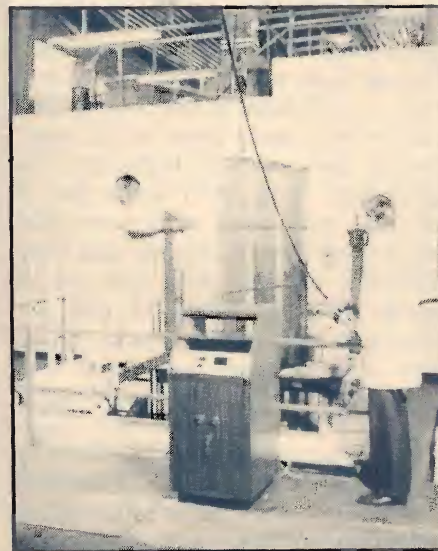
Those opposed to food irradiation include many who are active in the environmental, health, and anti-nuclear movements. They see food irradiation as yet another attempt by the nuclear industry to seek a market for an inherently dangerous product.

Three main points are cited by those in opposition to food irradiation. First, in order for food irradiation to be profitable, hundreds of irradiation facilities



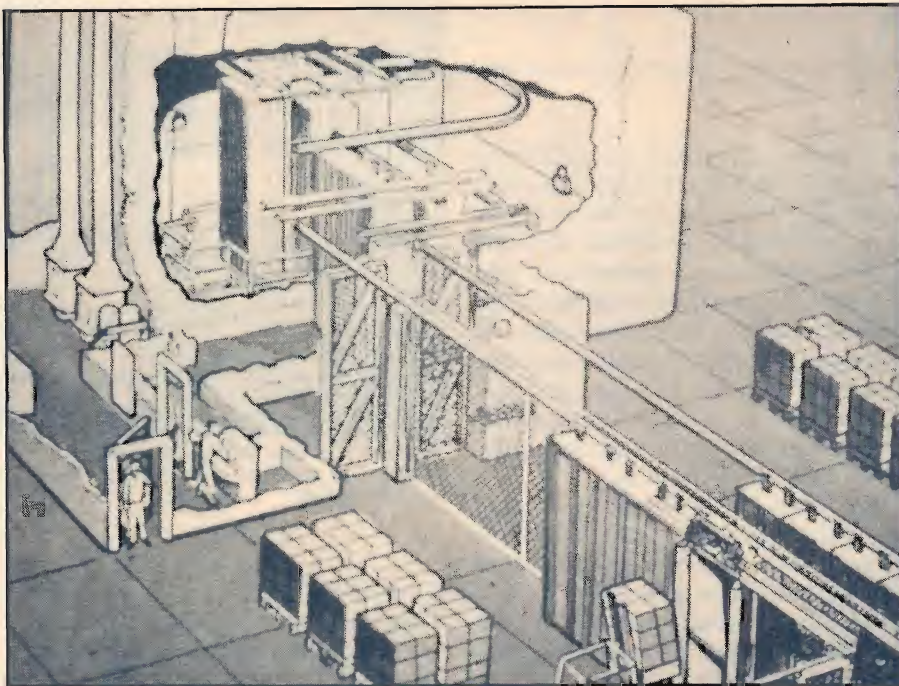
Potatoes undergoing irradiation in a bulk-type irradiation unit. Irradiation helps delay sprouting in potatoes.

would have to be established across the U.S., each containing large amounts of highly radioactive material. Both the irradiation facilities themselves and the nuclear materials being transported between the manufacturer and the irradiation facility would be subject to accident or sabotage. Second opponents cite the possibility that unscrupulous processors would irradiate substandard food to kill off the bacteria which cause food spoilage, and then sell the food as fresh. This has already happened in Europe. Third, while the irradiation of food does not make the food radioactive, it does create in the food new chemical compounds known as URPs, unique radiolytic products. Some of these URPs, opponents contend, are carcinogenic.



Technicians loading food in a batch-type irradiator.





Schematic of a pallet-type irradiation facility.

What then is the truth about food irradiation? Does it represent a bright new promise for the future as its supporters contend? Or is it, as one well-known critic of the industry proclaims, "the massacre of the American food supply?"

In 1980 both the World Health Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations recommended that member governments give their approval for food irradiation. Currently some 32 countries have approved some applications of food irradiation. Irradiated foods are now being marketed in about 20 countries worldwide. In Japan for example, some 20,000 tons of potatoes are irradiated each year in order to prevent sprouting. In South Africa two commercial irradiation facilities continually process mangoes, papayas, and a variety of vegetables and meats. Other countries such as Canada, France, Italy, and the Soviet Union have been irradiating a wide range of foods for years.

In the U.S. irradiation has been used to sterilize foods for a very limited number of hospital patients whose illnesses have compromised their ability to fight off infection. U.S. astronauts, since the Apollo program of the late 1960s and early 1970s, have also carried with them foods sterilized by irradiation.

Despite the above examples, large-scale irradiation of food in the U.S. has yet to be accepted either by the public or the major food processing companies. Years of legal wrangling over the safety issue and the very cautious approach taken by the Food and Drug Adminis-

tration have severely limited the growth of the food irradiation industry in this country.

The FDA has, over the years, granted permits for the limited irradiation of some foods. In 1963 permission was granted for the irradiation of wheat and wheat flour for the purposes of insect disinfestation. In 1964 irradiation was approved to inhibit sprouting in white potatoes. Neither of these ventures proved commercially feasible, as there existed less expensive and more readily available alternatives to irradiation.

In the mid 1980s the FDA began approving a wider variety of foods for irradiation. Currently approved foods include spices and herbs, pork products, some fruits and vegetables, spice blends



Strawberries being loaded onto a conveyor system in a commercial food irradiation facility.

and vegetable seasonings. Of this list only spices are being routinely irradiated. About 1 percent of all the spices used in this country are irradiated. They are used in prepared foods such as frozen pizza and cookies.

As noted, resistance to the marketing of irradiated foods has proven considerable. Indeed, in 1985 when the FDA invited public comments on its proposal to allow for the first time low-dose irradiation of fresh fruits and vegetables, the agency received a greater number of written comments, mostly in opposition to the proposal, than it had on any previous proposal.

Consumer, environmental, and anti-nuclear forces have joined together in opposition to food irradiation. They have formed, among other groups, the National Coalition to Stop Food Irradiation, a coalition of 57 organizations dedicated to preventing the marketing of irradiated foods in the U.S. They have been effective.

Food processors and retailers throughout the industry have been reluctant to publicly support food irradiation. Says one executive for a major food processor, he would not want it known that his firm had even considered food irradiation because "we don't want to become a target for all those activists to picket or boycott." As with many other things nuclear in the U.S., food irradiation has become less a scientific and technical matter, than a political one.

**How Food Irradiation Works**—When food is exposed to ionizing radiation the radiant energy passes through the food interacting with water and other molecules in the food. This interaction results in the disruption of the cell structure of the bacteria, yeasts, and molds which cause illness and spoilage. The effect radiation has on food is determined by the amount of radiation to which the food is exposed. High doses of radiation will kill cells outright. This is useful in killing spoilage bacteria and insects. Lower doses will alter normal biochemical reactions in foods which will have the effect of delaying fruit ripening and sprouting in vegetables.

When cell structures are disrupted by radiation, electrons are freed from the molecules of the disrupted cells. The resulting molecules, with unshared electrons, are known as free radicals. These free radicals will go on to interact with other molecules in the food to create trace chemicals known as unique radiolytic products, URPs. It is the URPs which pose the primary consumer safety issue for those concerned about food



# Food Irradiation

irradiation. More on URPs later.

A note about the levels of radiation to which food is exposed during processing. The total dosage of radiation applied to the food is determined by the amount of time the food is exposed to the radiation source. The longer the exposure the higher the dose.

Radiation exposure is measured in RADs, radiation absorbed dose. In the U.S., the FDA has authorized irradiation of fruits, vegetables, and pork at up to 3,000,000 RADs. Those who oppose food irradiation are often quick to point out that the levels of radiation to which food is exposed are far in excess of the lethal radiation dose, 600 RADs, for human beings. While this is true, and sounds ominous, it is basically irrelevant, since food treated at even the highest allowable radiation levels does NOT become radioactive, nor does it retain any radioactive substance within it.

As noted earlier the creation of URPs during the irradiation process has become central to the issue of the safety of irradiated foods.

There is no doubt that irradiation does indeed create in food URPs which are known carcinogens, for example benzene and formaldehyde. However most scientists are quick to point out that many of these same products are also created during normal cooking of foods in the home. In fact, about 90 percent of the URPs created during the irradiation process are chemicals whose toxicity is well understood and for which safety guidelines already exist. The remaining 10 percent of radiolytic byproducts are less well known. Those opposed to food irradiation say that until the toxic effects of these URPs are fully understood, irradiated foods should not be marketed.

In response to this argument the FDA says that for the most part URPs are not new chemical compounds at all, but are simply already existing compounds that, because of their extremely small concentrations in foods, have not yet been detected through ordinary analysis. Says one FDA scientist, "There's no food that is completely known." For example, "You can't identify everything that's in an apple. The basis for establishing safety is not absolute safety. It's reasonable safety."

Opponents of food irradiation have also challenged the assertion that the process will help reduce food poisoning cases in the U.S. While they concede the

effectiveness of irradiation in killing the salmonella bacteria, they also note that the deadly botulism bacterium is per-versely resistant to irradiation. This fact might result in an increase of life-threatening food poisonings since the bacteria which cause food spoilage, and the rotten odor that accompanies it, will be killed, while the botulism bacteria, which cause no noticeable changes in food, will remain present on supposedly "sterilized" food products.

The irradiation industry, in responding to this argument, notes that, "This concern is not unique to irradiation; it also applies to other processes that cause partial destruction of microorganisms in food, such as heat pasteurization and chemical treatments. The results of studies indicate that under well-controlled conditions of processing, packaging, handling, and distribution, irradiation would not increase the risk of food poisoning."

The question of labelling irradiated foods has also become a bone of contention between the two sides. Consumer activists contend that the labelling of irradiated foods will give consumers the choice of purchasing either irradiated or non-irradiated foods. The irradiation industry, while not opposing the concept of labelling says that such labelling might scare away potential consumers. Furthermore they say that there is no health reason for such labelling, and that there are no subgroups of people who need to avoid these foods, as there are for example with food additives such as sulfites and MSG which can cause allergic reactions. Currently the FDA requires only that whole foods bear a label indicating that they have been irradiated. Processed foods which use irradiated ingredients are not required to have such a label.

The question of the environmental safety of a large-scale U.S. food irradiation industry is also of concern to many. They worry that the large number of irradiation facilities necessary to make the industry profitable would greatly increase the odds of accidents both at the facilities and during the transport of radioactive materials.

The industry counters by noting that there already exist some 50 medical products irradiation facilities across the country, as well as more than 1,000 hospitals with radiation therapy units, most of which are located in the heart



Irradiation is effective in eliminating disease-causing micro-organisms packaged in frozen fish and fish products.

of major metropolitan areas. Each of these units use exactly the same radioactive source material which would be used in food irradiation plants.

As for the food irradiation facilities themselves, the industry takes great pains to point out that they are not nuclear reactors. They cannot suffer a "meltdown" or explode. There is no risk of a Three Mile Island- or Chernobyl-like accident occurring at one of these plants.

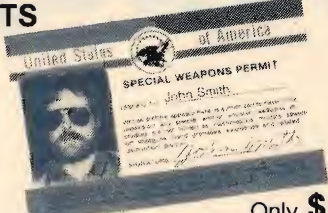
Regarding transportation of radioactive materials, a report by the American Council on Science and Health says, "The Department of Transportation, (DOT) has carrier requirements for the transport of hazardous materials, including radioactive cobalt and cesium. These substances have been transported to irradiation facilities and hospitals throughout the world for many years without difficulty. In fact, the containers used for the transport of radioactive cobalt are so well shielded and damage resistant that the DOT permits them to be shipped by common carrier."

We have in this article attempted to give an overview of the major arguments on both sides of the food irradiation controversy. The question of whether or not irradiated foods become commonplace on American supermarket shelves is now in the political arena. Both sides are continually lobbying elected representatives and government regulators in an effort to advance their cause.

Regardless of the outcome of the debate now taking place in this country, it does appear that in the long term, as world population continues to grow, and as factors such as climatic changes impact on world food production, technologies such as food irradiation might be more widely used in feeding an increasingly hungry world populace. ●



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